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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 104 | MONDAY MAY 27, 2013 | www.saipantribune.com | 75¢

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POLL RESULTS

With 10 months to go before its projected collapse, do you think the NMI Retirement Fund can still be saved?

Yes	52
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Sunday, May 26, 2013

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Marianas Resort and Spa chefs once again dominates the Chef's Competition. ➤ PAGE 2

LOCAL

Jeong Hyun Kwon tops this year's graduates of the Northern Marianas College. ➤ PAGE 6

WORLD

Parts of the Dead Sea Scrolls are up for sale—in tiny pieces. ➤ PAGE 19

A tribute to fallen soldiers

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Many of the CNMI's fallen soldiers in the War Against Terror—at least 18 of them—were still in their teens when the United States went to Afghanistan and Iraq. Many of them were still in their early 20s when they deployed. After paying the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom, these CNMI sons and daughters, along with those who served before them and those from other parts of the nation, will be remembered today.

» WWII soldier buried almost 7 decades later

Today marks Memorial Day, a holiday honoring military personnel who died in any war while serving with the United States.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider join the people of the Commonwealth on this day "in remembering our brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces for giving their all in the name of the freedom and liberty we enjoy today."

"Their commitment and their sacrifices shall never go unnoticed today and every day of our lives," they said in a statement yesterday.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the

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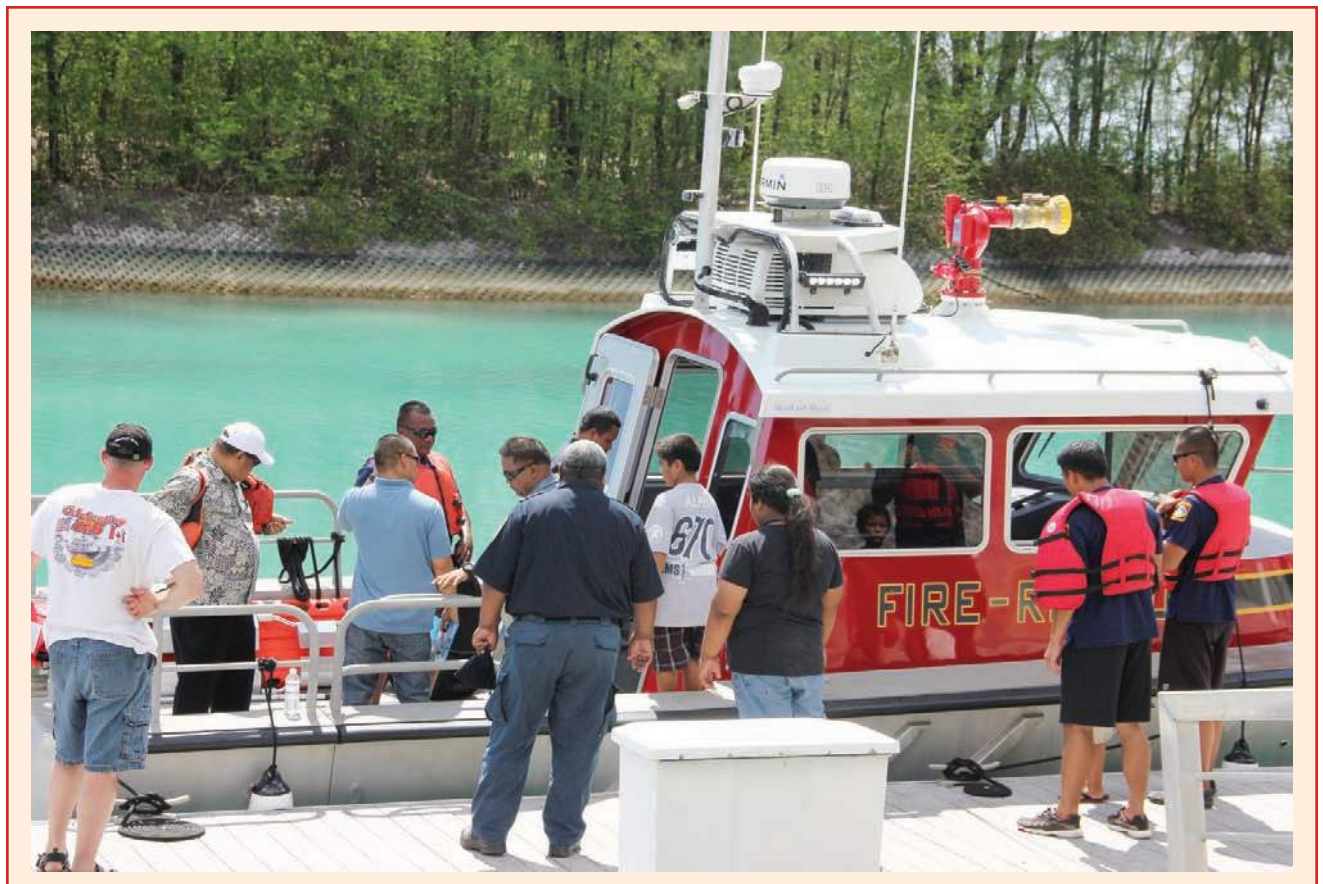

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Gov. Eloy S. Inos puts on a lifejacket as he leads the first passengers during the launching of the Department of Public Safety's multi-mission fire boat at Smiling Cove Marina Friday afternoon. The acquisition of the $680,000 vessel gives DPS the distinction of having the only such boat in the entire Pacific Region outside Hawaii.

DPS unveils multi-mission fire boat

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Department also acquires 5 new ambulances

Gov. Eloy S. Inos led Friday's historic launching of a $680,000 multi-mission fire boat, giving the CNMI's Department of Public Safety the distinction of having the only such vessel in the entire Pacific Region outside Hawaii.

"This is the boat!" said Inos, turning to view the 35-foot boat during the launching ceremony outside the DPS Boating Safety Unit at Smiling Cove Marina.

The governor then asked DPS Fire chief Thomas M. Manglona if this is the same vessel for which papers went back and forth to the Office of the Governor in the past several months.

When Manglona nodded, Inos turned again to look at the boat and said anew, "This is the boat!" drawing

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2 years since Luhk sisters went missing

Faloma Maleina

» Special Mass offered; DPS chief says ultimate goal is to locate sisters

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Saturday marked the second year since the mysterious disappearance of sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk in As Teo, Saipan, with still no trace of the sisters and their family still holding out hope that they are still alive.

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Inos weighs options on Quichocho nomination

» Inos heads to Alaska, Hofschneider back in CNMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Prior to his trip to Alaska on official business, Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the administration is weighing its options on attorney Ramon "Ray" Quichocho's nomination as Superior Court associate judge amid recent complaints and court judgment against him and the CNMI Bar Association's dismal rating of his suitability for the post.

Quichocho

When asked whether the administra-

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Millard seeks creditor protection; NMI pursues tax fight. PAGE 3
Judge tells lawyers to stop protracted Fund litigation. PAGE 5

Marianas Resort wins Chef's Competition anew

By REINA PEREZ
STUDENT REPORTER

Marianas Resort and Spa chefs once again dominated the Chef's Competition during the last day of the 15th annual Taste of the Marianas Festival and Beer Garden at the American Memorial Park on Saturday.

Emmanuel Pancha and Richard Meimban impressed the judges with their creation, called North's Best Burger, and their House of Burgers, an edible house made of bread. The Marianas Resort team also won last year's edition of the Chef's Competition.

The theme for this year's Chef's Competition was the all-American cheeseburger. Chefs from different hotels and restaurants came to the Taste of Marianas to showcase their skills and artwork when it comes to cooking. Their prime ingredient was certified Angus beef. They also had to make their French fries from real potatoes and their hamburger buns from scratch.

The Marianas Resort's team of Pancha and Meimban came up with a cheeseburger made of honey molasses glazed bacon, caramelized onion, grilled lettuce, roasted tomato with sea salt, sautéed mushroom, and smoky tomato mayo. They called it North's Best Burger and the judges seemed to agree, awarding them the top prize in the night's competition.

Pancha has worked as a cook at the Marianas Resort for 18 years and was also the winner of the inaugural Top Chef Competition a year ago. Meimban has been with the resort as a cook for 12 years.

The Hyatt Regency Saipan's team of Benjamin Babauta and Victor Norita took second place with their "Five Alarm" Spicy Burger—a concoction that featured red onion, garlic, fresh spinach, parmesan cheese, fresh cream, shredded romaine lettuce, curley lettuce leave, tomatoes, coriander seed, black pepper, paprika, and chopped green chili.

Babauta, who worked for the Hyatt Regency for almost three years, called it a "team effort." His team member, Norita, has been with the Hyatt Regency for less than a year.

The Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan's team of Hermie Cornejo and Alfredo Capacio placed third with their Texas Chili Burger, made with sautéed chopped onion, tomato catsup, nutmeg, salt and pepper to taste, as well as fresh milk.

Cornejo has worked for 20 years at Fiesta Resort, while his partner Capacio has been with Fiesta Resort for 10 years.

Marianas Resort and Spa chefs Emmanuel Pancha, left, and Richard Meimban pose in front of their House of Burgers, an edible house made of bread, during Saturday night's Chef's Competition at the 15th annual Taste of the Marianas Festival and Beer Garden at the American Memorial Park.
REINA PEREZ

The Hyatt Regency Saipan's team of Benjamin Babauta and Victor Norita wins second place with their "Five Alarm" Spicy Burger
REINA PEREZ

The Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan's team of Hermie Cornejo and Alfredo Capacio places third with their Texas Chili Burger.
REINA PEREZ

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

5th Annual Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament

The **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** and major sports gym franchise **Central Sports** are gearing up for the **5th Annual Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament** on **Managaha** on June 15, 2013.

Promotions are now underway in Japan for the 1.5-km swim around Managaha, highlighting the scenic underwater wonders of the award-winning sandy atoll.

Fliers and posters have been distributed in Japan to announce the event and official sponsors are being lined up. An official registration page has been opened on the sports event registration website **JTB Sports Station**, and the race also has its own **Facebook** page for participants convenience.

The race will also include a new race category this year, the 1.5-km Group Swimming.

For more information about the event or an English registration form, visit the MVA official website at www.mymarianas.com under the Calendar of Events event date.

Paid for with a federal grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.

Saipan Tinian Rota

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY

Local

Millard seeks creditor protection; NMI pursues tax fight

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said Saturday night that the CNMI government continues to go after computer tycoon William Millard who allegedly owes the CNMI some $118 million in unpaid taxes from the '80s, in the wake of Millard's recent filing for creditor protection with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in New York.

Millard, once listed as among America's richest and founder of ComputerLand Corp., told a bankruptcy judge in New York that he's not a tax fugitive but a victim of a decades-old vendetta from CNMI lawmakers.

The Millards briefly resided in the CNMI in the late '80s during which time they sold their interests in ComputerLand for over $200 million.

He told the bankruptcy judge about his and his family's brief stay on Saipan, including their significant investment on the island "toward improving living conditions for its residents."

Millard also cited a property investment and construction of a home that locals have come to know as the unfinished Millard castle and mansion in Papago, now housing a Chinese firm after accommodating free of charge several families belonging to a church on Saipan for several years.

"Unfortunately it did not take long for us to become aware of extensive corruption by public servants of the [CNMI]. We became vocal opponents to the corruption and we were contacted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to assist them with the [CNMI government]. We cooperated with the FBI and this became public information both in the [CNMI] and in the United States; as a result of media reports confirming my assistance to the FBI, and willingness to testify before a grand jury, we became a subject to significant harassment and threats of violence," he told the court.

What Millard told the court contrasts with the picture painted by CNMI lawyers that Millard has been a notorious tax fugitive.

CNMI lawyers tracked down Millard to the Grand Cayman Islands in the Caribbean in 2010 despite vanishing soon after selling his firm in the late '80s.

The CNMI tapped New York-based Kobre & Kim law firm in 2010 to go after the Millards' unpaid taxes plus interests and judgments, which is more than the CNMI's fiscal year 2013 budget of $114 million.

Despite Millard's filings two weeks ago with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Manhattan, Inos said the CNMI is not buckling down.

"We are going to pursue this," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* at the conclusion of the 2013 Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival on Saturday night.

In 1994, the CNMI got a tax judgment against Millard and his wife for $36 million from the U.S. District Court in the NMI.

In Millard's recent filing with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Manhattan, as reported by *The Wall Street Journal*, he said they found out about the CNMI's tax collection efforts in 2011 and has since filed a lawsuit in federal court in Florida to get rid of the judgments.

In late April, a New York Court of Appeals issued a ruling that makes it harder for the CNMI to collect $36 million in taxes from Millard, to the Inos administration's dismay.

The $36 million is Millard's initial income tax liability, but interest on judgments brought the figure to some $118 million.

The New York's Court of Appeals ruled that Toronto-based Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce or CIBC could not be ordered to turn over assets held at its Cayman Islands subsidiary to enforce judgments.

The CNMI had sought a court order for CIBC to turn over assets that the Millards allegedly deposited at a Cayman Islands subsidiary.

The CNMI tried to get CIBC's New York branch to garnish the assets.

CIBC opposed the request, saying that under New York law, it could not be ordered to turn over assets of a foreign bank subsidiary.

New York's Court of Appeals ruled in their favor when it said CIBC could not be ordered to turn over assets held at its Cayman Islands subsidiary to enforce the judgments. It also said CIBC needed to have custody or possession of the assets, not just control over the subsidiary.

Corporation OK's 10-pct. discount for health insurance companies

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Health insurance companies doing business with the public hospital were approved a mere 10-percent discount on the new fees enforced at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. interim CEO Esther Muña disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that health insurance firms will be given a 10-percent discount rate on new fees—far from the firms' proposal of a 50-percent discount.

Insurance companies had proposed the 50-pcercent discount if the corporation pushes through with its decision to increase by up to 300 percent the cost of services and fees at CHC.

The new provider agreement with each insurance company, Muña said, is effective Jan. 1, 2013. This means insurance firms will be assessed these new fees—with 10 percent discount—in January 2013 instead of August 2012 when the emergency regulation took effect.

"We have a new agreement with them … and it takes effect Jan. 1, 2013," she said, adding that the discounted rate was approved to help health insurance firms cover the new hospital fees.

The corporation implemented in August 2012 an emergency regulation that increased hospital fees and services by up to 300 percent. Insurance firms earlier described these new rates as significantly higher than Guam and other states.

According to the health insurance companies, these high rates will lead to higher health insurance premiums, resulting in an increased number of uninsured individuals.

In September last year, health insurance carriers formally asked to the corporation to immediately replace the announced fee increased with a 20-percent across the board increase and plan for minimal adjustments in future years based on true hospital rate setting calculations, or 50 percent discount to health insurance carriers as alternatives. They also request consideration on other "specific rates" included in the new charge master.

Staywell Saipan Inc. branch manager Eric Plinske told *Saipan Tribune* that since the contract is in the process of being finalized, he declines to give a statement at this time. He described the "provider agreement" as a comprehensive document that would detail the specifics of each and every transaction to be made with the hospital.

Also deferring his comments on the issue at this time is Calvo's Insurance Underwriters Inc. branch manager Eli Buenaventura.

In an earlier interview with *Saipan Tribune*, top officials of insurance companies said that the "excessive" rate hikes in hospital fees will mean passing the added cost to their members, which will translate to an average of 25 to 30 percent increase in premium charges. This may also force these companies to re-evaluate the policies they offer CNMI customers.

Among the health insurance firms doing business with the corporation are Calvo's Select Care, Moylan's NetCare, Staywell, and TakeCare.

The new fees at the CHC will not affect government programs such as Medicare or Medicaid and will only impact the population insured through private payers.

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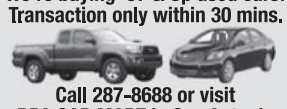
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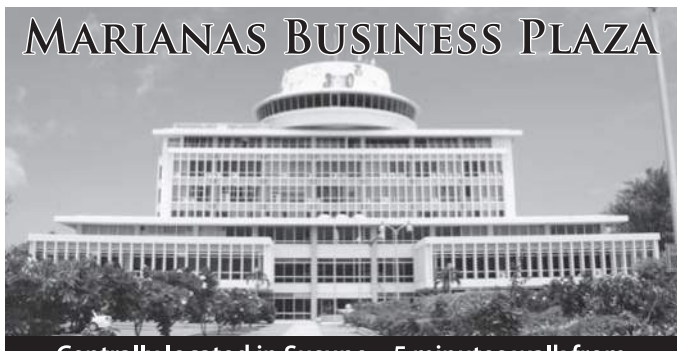
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QUICHOCHO

From Page 1

tion is considering recalling or withdrawing Quichocho's nomination, Inos said "there are a lot of options" that include the nominee "bowing out" or the Senate "disposing of" it.

"Options including Mr. Quichocho himself, you know, bowing out or the Senate acting on it. But of course we submitted the appointment and it is our desire that it goes through the process," Inos said in an interview at the launching ceremony for a multi-mission fire boat at the Smiling Cove Marina Friday afternoon.

Inos also said the administration will fully address the matter once Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider is back on island after an off-island trip for the settlement of a case in connection with the hospital's reverse osmosis system.

Inos said Friday that Hofschneider was in Idaho and was expected to return over the weekend.

It was Hofschneider who nominated Quichocho. At the time, Inos was in Guam to meet with a key U.S. military official in the region.

It was not immediately known whether Inos and Hofschneider were able to discuss Quichocho's nomination before the governor left the CNMI and after the lieutenant governor returned to the islands over the weekend.

Press secretary Angel Demapan confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday afternoon that the governor "is headed to Alaska to meet with Sen. Lisa Murkowski on CNMI issues and what kind of support she can push for in the Senate."

"While in Alaska, Gov. Inos will also visit with the governor and lieutenant governor of Alaska," Demapan added.

On Saturday, the governor attended both the Northern Marianas College graduation and the closing of the 2013 Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival.

Quichocho's nomination requires the Senate's advice and consent.

"That nomination is now before the Senate so the Senate will have to dispose of it," Inos said Friday.

However, Inos confirmed that the administration has not submitted to the Senate yet all the required documents supporting Quichocho's nomination. These include a police clearance, a copy of his résumé, statement of financial interests, drug test receipt, and drug test result.

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations historically waits for these documents before scheduling any public hearing on the nomination.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), EAGI Committee chairman, said they may hold a public hearing on Quichocho's nomination this week.

Quichocho's nomination has become the three-month-old Inos administration's most controversial appointment so far, drawing both support and opposition from different sectors. Lawyers who have so far come out in support of him included those that Quichocho have represented or vice versa.

Quichocho was counsel for a taxpayers' lawsuit against a sole-source, 25-year $190.8 million diesel power purchase agreement that became one of the bases for two impeachment resolutions against former governor Benigno R. Fitial. Quichocho was also among the few practicing attorneys that openly supported Fitial's impeachment.

However, just days after Quichocho was nominated, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo determined that Quichocho had induced a landowner to violate public policy by filing false documents with the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

In an order, Govendo said Quichocho's conduct of inducing landowner Joaquin Q. Atalig to breach a land lease agreement was improper.

Days later, an expert witness retained in a racketeering lawsuit against Quichocho stated that Quichocho not only committed ethical transgressions but likely even criminal acts.

Benjamin M. Abrams, an assistant attorney general at the Guam Office of the Attorney General, said the facts strongly suggest that Quichocho took unfair and unethical advantage of a client, Jung Ja Kim, by sexually victimizing her while she was on depression medication, thwarting her recovery, in an act of moral turpitude, and violative of the American Bar Association's Disciplinary Rules.

DPS

From Page 1

laughter from police officers, fire firefighters, and other guests during the ceremony.

DPS confirmed that it is the same boat that then DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro reportedly inspected in Canada early this year.

As it is the first time for DPS to acquire such an asset, Inos urged Boating Safety personnel to take care of the vessel.

"It's for the safety of our people and the boaters," the governor said.

At the same ceremony, DPS also unveiled its newly purchased five emergency ambulances.

Before the boat's launching, Fr. Jesse Reyes administered the christening of the vessel and blessing of the five ambulances. The boat was then finally launched into the water, where Fire Lt. Jesse Mesa demonstrated the vessel's capability to spray water from a long distance.

DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero said this is the first such boat in the entire Marianas.

"That's quite a feat," he said.

He related that Fire chief Manglona and Fire Lt. Mesa had been working to acquire the boat for the past 18 months.

He thanked U.S. Homeland Security and the Department of the Interior for approving the funds to purchase the vessel.

Inos, Deleon Guerrero, and CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management special assistant Marvin K. Seman were among the first passengers of the boat.

According to firefighter 1 Jocelyn Alvarez, DPS received the boat a week ago. She said it was custom built for DPS fire and the CNMI.

Alvarez said the boat will provide primary emergency response and mutual aid to the Port of Saipan in supporting port security missions in the event that CNMI ports are compromised by weapons of mass destruction or chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive incidents.

In addition, the boat is capable of performing marine firefighting, search and rescue operations, and hazmat detection, Alvarez said

"This boat will be fully equipped and staffed 24/7 with properly trained search and rescue and hazmat personnel and will also assist the DPS Boating Safety Unit, CPA Harbor Patrol Unit and the U.S. Coast Guard in accomplishing its maritime multi-missions in the CNMI," Alvarez said.

Purchased through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Port Security Grant Program, Alvarez said the procurement of the 35-foot boat was a joint effort between DPS and the U.S. Coast Guard to ensure that the CNMI is supported with adequate maritime response capabilities and is in a constant state of response readiness for all port security missions.

With respect to the five ambulances that also arrived last week, Fire chief Manglona said each costs $100,000, including shipping from the U.S. mainland, with the funding coming from the Department of the Interior's Technical Assistance Program.

Manglona said that four will be assigned to Saipan and one will be on Tinian.

For Rota, Manglona said they will be purchasing one fire truck, which is more expensive.

With the four new ambulances, Saipan now has eight ambulances.

Manglona said the old ambulances have been around at least 12 years and run 24 hours, so they're always in and out of repair shops.

TRIBUTE

From Page 1

administration also continues to ask the community to pray for the safety of the 16 CNMI soldiers deployed with the Guam Army National Guard and all the other soldiers deployed.

"We pray for their mission and their safe return home," he said.

A Memorial Day ceremony is set for 9am today at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

The recent death of two Guam soldiers in Afghanistan has made the Marianas' observance of Memorial Week even more somber.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) said that Memorial Day marks the beginning of summer for many people, "but for millions of American families it holds a much deeper meaning."

"It is that day we set aside solemnly to remember the brave who did not make it home, to celebrate their courage, mourn their loss, and appreciate what they did to make our country a safer place. Please take a moment to remember them and their families," he said.

The CNMI's list of fallen soldiers in connection with the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars are: Army Sgt. Yihgyh "Eddie" L. Chen (April 4, 2004), Army SSgt. Wilgene Lieto (Oct. 31, 2005), Army Spc. Derence W. Jack (Oct. 31, 2005), Army Sgt. Jesse J. Castro (Dec. 6, 2006), Marine LCpl Adam Q. Emul (Jan. 29, 2007), Army SPC Leeroy A. Camacho (Feb. 9, 2007), Army PFC John D. Flores (May 3, 2007), Army PFC Victor M. Fontanilla (May 17, 2007), Army Spc. Joe Junior G. Charfauros (June 20, 2007), and Navy Seaman Anamarie San Nicolas Camacho (Oct. 22, 2007).

The others are: Army Sgt. Brian S. Leon Guerrero (July 10, 2008), Army SSgt. Julian F. Manglona (Oct. 9, 2008), Air Force SrA Audra P.M. Winkfield (June 19, 2009), Marine Cpl. Dave Michael Maliksi Santos (July 16, 2010), Sgt. George Joseph Affatica Sablan (Feb. 10, 2012), Marine Lance Cpl Ramon Taisakan Kaipat (April 11, 2012), U.S. Army Spc Joselyn Tara Mafnas Sablan (Sept. 20, 2012), and U.S. Army Spc Robert Jason Santos Deleon Guerrero (Sept. 23, 2012).

World War II soldier buried

Meanwhile, a World War II soldier whose remains were recovered on Saipan in 2011 came home to military honors in his hometown of Freemansburg, Pennsylvania, nearly seven decades after he was killed.

On Saturday, Pvt. William Yawney was buried at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Cemetery in Northampton.

Yawney's military funeral came nearly 69 years after he was killed on Saipan in July 1944 during World War II.

According to national media reports, Yawney's family initially received a letter saying he had been buried at a military cemetery on Saipan, but the Department of Defense later said no grave for Yawney was found.

DoD had said an archaeological company working on Saipan uncovered remains in 2011 that were confirmed to be Yawney's.

In April, the remains of a fallen World War II American soldier recovered on Saipan in March this year, along with those recently recovered in Vietnam and Laos, were also honored at an arrival ceremony in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The remains found on Saipan were believed to belong to William T. Carneal, from Paducah, Kentucky, who disappeared during World War II. He was believed to have enlisted in October 1941, reported missing in action in 1944, and declared dead in 1945.

A non-profit Japanese recovery organization called Kuentai Group arrived on Saipan in March to retrieve the remains of Japanese soldiers and civilians who perished during the war. In the process, they also discovered the remains believed to be that of an American soldier, along with dog tags, a high school ring and American coins. JPAC was notified and it sent a team to Saipan.

LUHK

From Page 1

The families of Faloma and Maleina Luhk offered a special Mass in Kagman Church on Saturday at 6pm "for hope and prayer for better results."

"The families are still going through in a very painful process not knowing and not finding my two granddaughters," Elbert Quitugua told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday in a phone interview.

Quitugua said the children's disappearance has had a devastating effect not just on him and his wife but their entire family, especially their Guam-based daughter, the mother of the children.

"This is the second year again. It is just a very difficult process. We hope that anyone out there with information, any bits of information, to please cooperate with the authorities," Quitugua said.

He expressed belief that the Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are on top of the case and have not given up.

Quoting local and federal investigators, Quitugua said that authorities consider the case an active one and that they are pursuing other information that's coming in to further pursue the investigation.

DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero said Friday that their ultimate goal is to locate the missing sisters.

Although he hopes the sisters are still alive out there, Deleon Guerrero said he does not want to be too overly optimistic, given the length of time that has elapsed since they disappeared.

He stated that DPS is still working in close coordination with the FBI in trying to solve the case.

Deleon Guerrero said the Luhk sisters' disappearance and the murder of bartender Emerita Romero were the priority cases that he really wanted to focus on since he became DPS chief.

He said the investigation into the murder of Romero has now ended up with the arrest and filing of charges against the suspect.

He said the case of the Luhk sisters is a little more complicated given the absence of evidence both forensically as well as the absence of testimonies or witnesses that would potentially advance the investigation.

"In a nutshell, we would like everybody to understand that many organizations, both federal and local, at the time of this incident, were committed to an effort to locate the Luhk sisters," he said.

Despite the available technologies brought in by federal partners, Deleon Guerrero said the investigators were unsuccessful in locating the sisters. "But that's not to say that we as a department is going to stop this investigation," he added.

He said the DPS special homicide cold case unit will continue to focus in the investigation of the missing Luhk sisters as well as other missing persons and pending homicide cases in the CNMI.

"We assure the community that we are continuing to investigate that but we at the same time would like to stress to the community, I'm pretty sure there may be people out there that have critical pieces of information even if they don't think it's not critical but could help police solve that particular case," he said.

Then 10-year-old Faloma and 9-year-old Maleina were last seen on May 25, 2011, near a bus stop pavilion in As Teo.

Their mysterious disappearance triggered the most extensive search in CNMI history, with FBI agents and DPS officers combing a landfill, caves, jungles, beaches, villages, abandoned buildings, and other areas for several months.

Many civilian volunteers joined some of the searches. The U.S. military even conducted aerial searches. A tracking dog was also sent from Hawaii to join the searches.

Alan Santos Aguon, a former DPS firefighter who refused to undergo a lie detector test in connection with the investigation, was tagged as "a person of interest" but he was never charged. In 2012, he was reportedly arrested in Burien, Washington state for domestic violence.

WITH FUND'S ASSETS DEPLETED IN 10 MONTHS

Judge tells lawyers to stop protracted Fund litigation

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has urged the parties in Betty Johnson's lawsuit to reach a settlement and resolve all financial issues within the next two weeks.

In an order issued Thursday, Tydingco-Gatewood said the continued and protracted litigation is not in any party's interest because time is quickly running out.

Until conclusion of the parties' settlement negotiations, she said she will not rule on the CNMI government's motion to reconsider the court's ruling that directed the CNMI government to pay the Fund's trustee *ad litem*'s compensation and expenses.

On Oct. 23, 2012, the CNMI government filed a motion requesting the court to reconsider its order that directed the CNMI government to be responsible for compensating and paying for the expenses of the Fund's trustee *ad litem* and any person or entity employed or contracted by the trustee *ad litem* in carrying out his or her responsibilities.

Because the parties agreed to participate in settlement discussions, the court held various motions, including the motion for reconsideration, under abeyance.

At the May 21, 2013, status hearing, the parties asked the court to rule on the motion for reconsideration without the need for a further hearing.

In her order Thursday, Tydingco-Gatewood conceded that she had stated that she would do so. However, she now believes that it would be more prudent to continue to hold the motion for reconsideration in abeyance at this time.

The judge emphasized anew that the life of the Fund's defined benefit plan is finite; without drastic changes the Fund's assets will be depleted in 10 months or by March 2014, as reported by the Fund's actuary, Buck Consultants, and investment consultant Wilshire Consulting.

Tydingco-Gatewood pointed out that there is no doubt that the looming consequences will adversely affect all of the defined benefit plan retirees and current employees.

"Therefore, it is imperative that all counsel work in good faith to settle this matter and resolve all other financial issues within the next two weeks," she said.

While she recognizes that the lawyers owe separate duties to their clients, Tydingco-Gatewood ordered all parties to resolve to work closely and communicate with each other to ensure that resolution remains a top priority.

The judge noted that the trustee *ad litem* and the Fund's counsel are currently defending or prosecuting at least 15 separate lawsuits pending in federal court, Superior Court, CNMI Supreme Court, and the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

In addition, there are 12 motions held in abeyance pending settlement negotiations.

"In the event settlement negotiations fail, the court is prepared to rule on all those pending motions at an extended hearing," she said.

Upon the court's ruling on the matters, the parties face the possibility of interlocutory appeals to the Ninth Circuit, she said.

"While monies are being expended for all of this necessary litigation, time is running out for the life of the DB plan," she stressed.

Without the parties' good faith efforts, settlement negotiations will likely fail, Tydingco-Gatewood said.

"The parties should not hesitate to meet with one another during the next two weeks—24/7 if they feel it is necessary to communicate, reconcile figures and exchange documents in an effort to resolve their differences," the judge said.

Lack of funding halts kindergarten expansion

The proposal to expand the Public School System's kindergarten program this coming school year is now dim due to lack of funds, according to Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.

"Expanding it will require funding for teachers, funding for the program itself, even for classroom furniture that are developmentally appropriate for kindergarten program. We actually gave that proposal to [Board of Education]…but we need to take that back to see what additional cost it will have for PSS. Everything will still depend on the funding and that's our main challenge now," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The BOE had wanted the program's coverage expanded to allow schools to accommodate enrollees outside of their school zones.

BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero has expressed concern that many children may not be able to avail of the program due to the limited number of students it can accommodate.

"This is an area that we ask the commissioner to address and give high priority. We really need to work with our leaders in finding money to hire teachers or build additional classrooms for the program. We would like to see this expanded so schools can accept kids other than their [school] zones. We need to really think outside the box and see how we can address the wait list for kindergarten," Guerrero said. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

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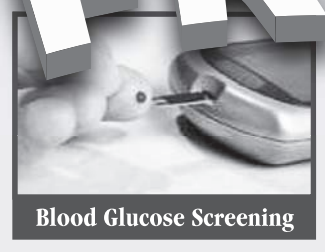
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Kwon: Education is more than academics

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Kwon

This was the message 23-year-old Jeong Hyun Kwon shared with colleagues, guests, and spectators during her inspirational remarks at the graduation ceremony of the Northern Marianas College on Saturday.

Originally from South Korea, Kwon spoke about the ordeals and sacrifices that shaped and gifted her with the wisdom and courage to realize that "education is more than academics," that real teaching is a powerful tool that changes lives for society's next generation.

"When I graduated from high school, I would not have imagined that I would be here standing at this podium right now. I am greatly honored to be here in front you delivering this speech as an academic excellence award recipient," she told the crowd.

Born in South Korea in 1990, Kwon's family moved to Saipan when she was in tenth grade. After high school, she attended courses at University of Illinois but had to return to Saipan because of financial difficulties.

"Moving back was a difficult thing for me. I felt like I had lost everything because I could not further my studies in the area I held most dear, mathematics," she said.

In spring 2010, Kwon was persuaded by her parents to pursue a degree in education, concentrating in elementary education.

At first, she said, she felt little confidence in pursuing this degree, thinking her personality would not allow her to be a teacher, and she was concerned about the language barrier. With reservations, she applied with NMC and declared a major in education—a decision that became a turning point in her life.

"The School of Education drastically transformed me. Teachbacks throughout the program required me to practice speaking in front of others which allowed me to break through my shell and the linguistic barrier," said Kwon.

Practicum courses allowed her to experience teaching in real classrooms with real students.

RELATED NEWS
See photos on Page 13

"In my capstone course, student teaching, when 26 pairs of shining eyes looked at me for guidance and growth, they captured my heart. These children, the CNMI children, taught me the true rewards in education and reminded me that I am not only a teacher but a learner as well," she said.

She especially recognized her students at Oleai Elementary School for teaching her how to teach and how to love.

For her fellow graduates, Kwon said she is equally proud of each and everyone's accomplishment and joined them in celebrating their years of challenges and success.

Kwon, who expressed her great gratitude to her family here and Korea, wrapped up her message with violin solo of *Amazing Grace*.

"I would like to play a song called *Amazing Grace* on a violin because it praises the grace that brought me here today," she said.

As this year's most outstanding graduate, Kwon topped this year's batch of 180 graduates. She is the daughter of Young Jo Kwon and Yun Suk Kwon. She is a currently a support staff at Marianas Baptist Academy and is exploring a scholarship to pursue a master's degree in biblical studies at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.

'4-way tie'

Besides Kwon, four other students were named Academic Excellence Award recipients in the associate degree level: Anne Julia Padilla from business; Olivia Espeleta Leung from liberal arts; Hyo Jeong Kim from nursing; and Carina Suu Lan Train from the nursing program.

In their brief messages, each one challenged their colleagues to strive more for their life's successes. Family members, mentors, friends, and supporters were also equally recognized and cited as great contributors to their achievement.

This year's Student Leadership Awards were presented to Claire Dina Cabrera from the BS elementary education program and Carina Suu Lan Train from the nursing program.

Presenters of these awards included Gov. Eloy S. Inos, NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., and Board of Regents' chair Juan Lizama.

Richard Vila Pizarro from the business administration program is this year's Community Service Awardee. Pizarro was NMC's Student of the Year awardee during the Charter Day celebration.

Educated workforce

In her message, Hart said that there is no greater public treasure than a highly educated, creative and energized group of college graduates. The graduates, she said, are departing with competencies and skills in their chosen fields in order to make a difference for the islands.

As a Commonwealth, Hart said that everyone must embrace the fact that it is an educated workforce that transforms an economy. According to her, of the 30 fastest growing occupations today, two-thirds require postsecondary education. And, with the average earnings of colleges graduates at a level that is twice that of workers with only a high school diploma, a college education is clearly the path to an individuals—and a family's—brighter future.

"We must strive as a Commonwealth to be that kind of place that focuses on a brighter future by ensuring access to higher educational opportunities for all students. Our doors must be opened even further so we can help more people here across our beautiful islands to succeed," she said.

Hart challenged the new graduates to never stop learning and never stop giving back. "No matter the path you choose, I hope we here at NMC have given you that initial fire in your soul. Now go out, make a difference, and make us all proud!"

In honor of those who have fought for our country, thank you.
From the management and staff of
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38 take part in PDM monthly cleanup

PDM Promoters Inc. recently held its monthly cleanup in Garapan with more than 800 lbs of trash collected by its 38 volunteers.

Organization representative Sonia Awa said volunteers were made up by 25 members of the Saipan Awaodori Team along with two of their parents and 13 staff from Kinpachi Restaurant.

The group was able to tidy up and collect trash from the Paseo de Marianas, Coral Tree Avenue from the American Memorial Park Road to Beach Road reaching ABC Store 702, Winchell's Road, and inside street and alleys.

The 860 lbs of trash collected were made up mostly of beer bottles, plastic bottles, canned drinks, cigarette butts, dried bushes, and leaves.

The group also did some bush-cutting along Paseo de Marianas, Winchell's Road, and Coral Tree Avenue and took out dried bushes and trash clogging drainage ditches in the district.

Awa thanked all the volunteers for doing a "superb job" during their monthly cleanup and also extended her kudos to the Division of Environment Quality for allowing them to unload the garbage they collected for free at the trash station.

PDM Promoters is community group known for its cultural dance group and for keeping the Paseo de Marianas spick and span throughout the year. It recently received a $2,000 donation from the TSL Foundation.

The group's monthly cleanups collect up to 1,000 lbs of trash during these drives. Aside from the TSL Foundation, other major sponsors of PDM Promoters are DFS Galleria Saipan and Docomo Pacific. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

2nd alleged victim of sex trafficking case takes witness stand

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The second of three alleged victims in a sex trafficking case testified in federal court on Friday how she was allegedly recruited from China to work in a hotel in America but ended up forced to work as a prostitute on Saipan.

After defense counsel Victorino Torres completed questioning the first alleged victim, the prosecution called to the witness stand the second alleged victim of Chang Ru Meng Bachman, a karaoke club operator who is on trial on charges of three counts of sex trafficking by force, fraud, or coercion.

The second alleged victim recalled through an interpreter that when Backman informed her and two other Chinese women that their job was to offer "companion services"—to drink, sing, and sleep with customers at Holiday Night Club—they were shocked and began to cry.

The alleged victim, who is the U.S. government's second witness in the trial, stated that she is married, has a child, and comes from a poor family from a province in China. She said she has been a plain farmer since she was just 13 years old.

In May 2008, she said her cousin talked to her about working in America "where human rights are observed." She said she wanted to work in America because she wanted to help her poor family and that if there was a chance she wanted to work in a farm or in hotels by washing dishes.

The witness said her cousin informed her that their neighbor just came from Hawaii where he worked for eight years.

She said she eventually met her cousin's neighbor, who informed her that the salary in America is $1,500 to $1,800 monthly.

She said she trusted the neighbor, who told her that her job would be cleaning in a hotel. The neighbor asked her to pay 10,000 RMB, which at the time was worth over $1,000. Later, the neighbor asked for 80,000 RMB more. She said she borrowed money from her family and friends to raise the 80,000 RMB.

At the Beijing airport, the neighbor gave her a passport, visa, and a piece of paper.

"I was very, very happy when I was told I could work five years in America," she said.

The alleged victim, who only has four years of education, said she did not even look at her plane ticket. She said only learned she was going to Saipan when some people at the airport told her upon seeing her ticket that she was going to Saipan.

The neighbor told her that certain people would pick her up at the Saipan airport.

She left Beijing on Aug. 7, 2008, and arrived on Saipan the following day at 2am. At the time she had $750 in her wallet.

At the Saipan airport, a man picked her up and took her and two other Chinese females to a hotel where they all stayed in one room for a few hours.

The witness said they received a phone call at 11am and were told to get up because it's time to work. She said they were brought to the Holiday Night Club located on the second floor of a two-story building.

At the bar, they met Backman, also known as Mingming. Backman showed them their small rooms and told them to clean them. The witness said the rooms were very dirty and they could see cockroaches and ants.

When Backman allegedly told them that their job is to offer "companion services," she said they cried in their rooms.

When asked by assistant U.S. attorney Rami S. Badawy why she did not run away after told about her job, the alleged victim said she was very ignorant at that time and did not know the place and anybody.

The witness said that Backman told them that if anybody asks them where are they come, to just say that they are from Rota and not from China.

On the first night of their job, the witness said they were asked to wear very short clothes and put on make up. She said she did not wear the dress because it was too short and that she did not know how to put on make up.

The alleged victim will continue her testimony tomorrow, Tuesday.

Meanwhile, during Friday's cross examination on the first alleged victim, Backman's counsel, Torres, pointed to the first alleged victim's statement that identified four persons who are members of Snakeheads that deceived them to work in a bar on Saipan.

In reading the statement, Torres pointed out that the first alleged victim never mentioned Backman as among the Snakeheads.

The witness replied, through an interpreter, that it was the Holiday Bar that forced them to work as prostitutes.

CHCC remains firm in going after ICS

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board remains firm in its position to go after its former coding and billing consultant, International Consulting Services, which received improper payments from the corporation.

The board wants not only an investigation on the Idaho-based company itself but also on the potential involvement of a corporation director who, based on the board's internal probe, may have had a hand in the company's "illegal" transaction last year.

At the board's recent meeting, trustees Roy Rios and Anthony Aguon, members of the special committee that did the internal investigation, disclosed that hospital services director Karen Buettner was present and had participated in a meeting with ICS.

"There is an issue on staff (besides the improper payment to ICS) that we wanted to find out. During the internal investigation, there were some contradictions where the business manager/supervisor of the business office acknowledged that Karen [Buettner] was there when they were discussing this illegal ICS transaction! But when Karen was interviewed, she denied it, claiming she was in the other room," Rios said.

Saipan Tribune has yet to receive a response from Buettner as of press time.

The result of the board's internal probe last year was referred to the Office of the Attorney General for further investigation and prosecution. However, it was not immediately known if the OAG did its own investigation on the matter.

"What's the update on this investigation? I would like to think that this is a kinda slum dunk case," said board chair Joaquin Torres, who later instructed hospital management to write former CEO Juan N. Babauta to ask about the status of the case.

"Is there any conclusion on this issue? Or will we just keep asking the same questions every time we meet?" asked Rios.

According to legal counsel Allen Hazlip, Babauta has not communicated to him any matter related to the ICS issue. Hazlip, however, assured the board that he will ask the the former CEO about this.

Prior to Babauta's departure, he had reported to the board that he is working with the legal counsel on the ICS issue, where the corporation could potentially recoup the improper payments.

It was earlier disclosed that the hospital management wrongfully deposited about $150,000 to an ICS account in May 2012.

According to Torres, this is besides the $37,000 advanced payment the corporation paid ICS.

Last March 11, 2013 Attorney General Joey San Nicolas confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that there is an ongoing investigation on the ICS contract. At the time, he could not give a timeframe as to when the process will be completed.

San Nicolas has yet to respond yesterday to *Saipan Tribune*'s inquiry on the latest update on this probe.

The Idaho-based ICS secured a six-year sole source contract in February 2012 with the corporation as its billing and coding consultant. The OAG later determined that the contract was costly and unlawful and issued a cease-and-desist order.

The same issue was the reason for the sudden termination of then corporation COO James Phillips, who was listed then as the direct contact in the agreement.

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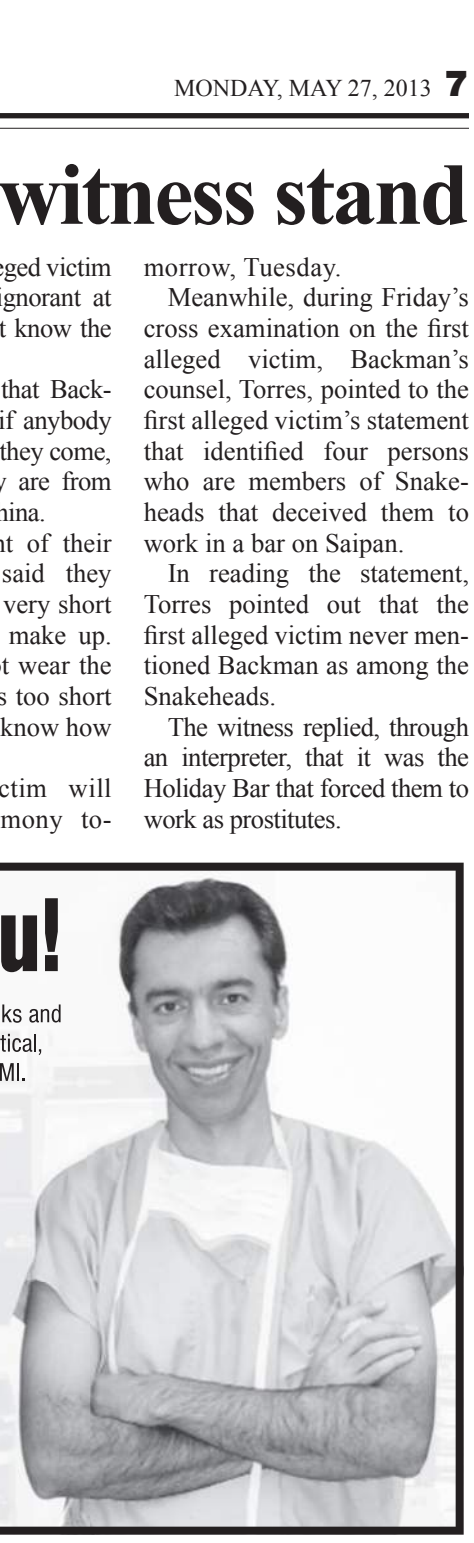

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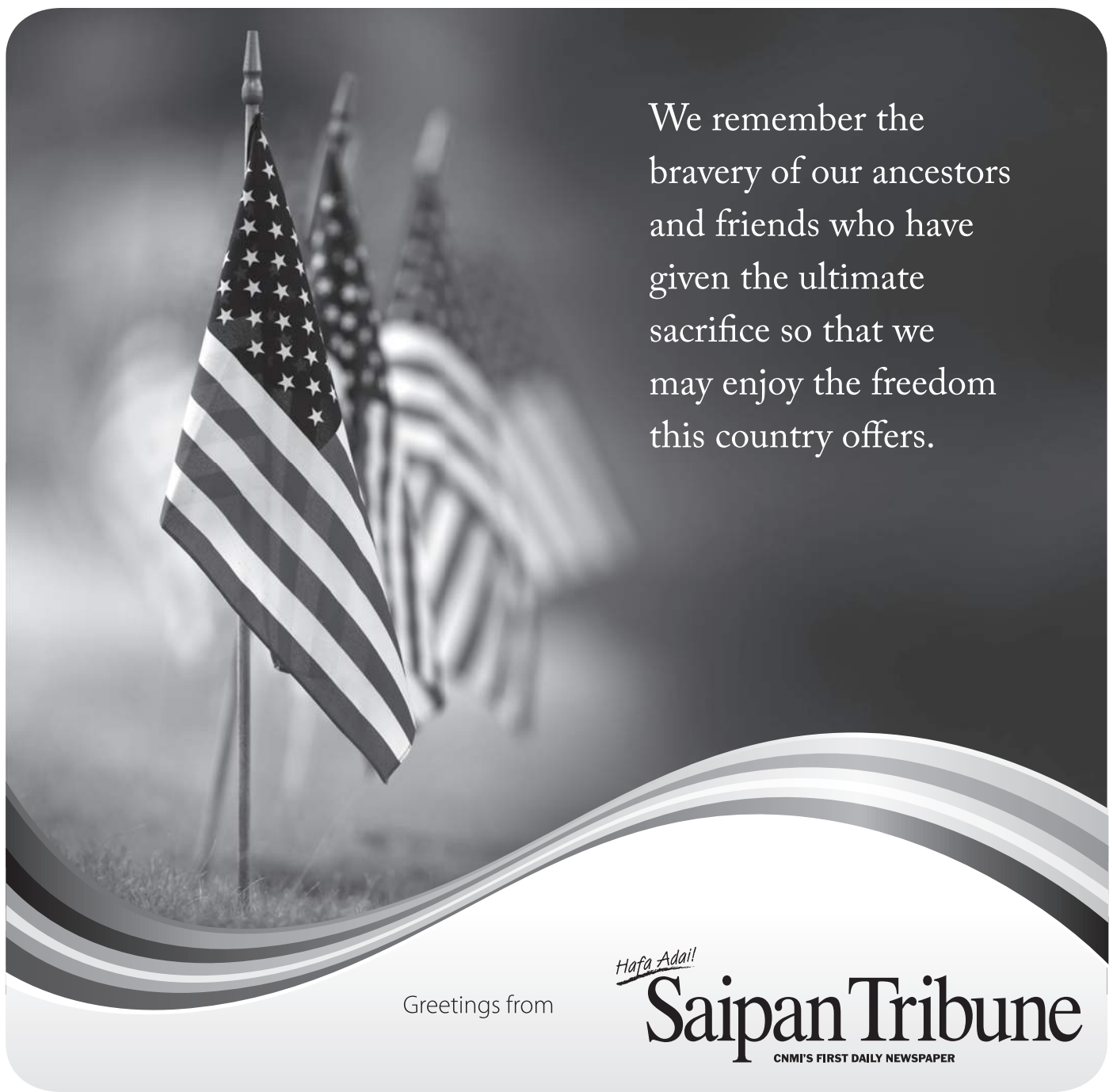
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Greetings from
Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Warehousing training program completed

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DYS/SHRM Group 1 completed training on May 17. DYS acting director Vivian Sablan addressed the graduating group on the next step of searching for jobs.

The second group of participants in the Society for Human Resource Management's Workforce Readiness Initiative completed a week of job preparation and warehousing skills.

This group of job seekers, referred by the Division of Youth Services, the CNMI Department of Labor, and the Workforce Investment Agency, completed 40 hours of training during the week of May 13-17, with warehousing and OSHA classroom training and on-site observation of warehousing operations.

The program also included forklift training and testing to allow the participants to obtain their forklift operator certification.

These graduates comprise the second group of trainees completing the Initiative's program. Businesses needing warehousemen, stockers, or employees for similar positions are encouraged to hire these trainees, all U.S. qualified workers, by contacting 233-7476.

The program also has food service, waiter/waitress and administrative staff available from earlier classes.

"The SHRM program is an ongoing positive effort to help U.S. qualified workers join the local workforce. Our efforts, so far, have been successful in providing good introductory and basic training," said Frank Gibson, Initiative program manager for SHRM. "Our participants are ready to join a company and continuing their learning through daily warehousing work. They have all shown their sincere intention, attending each day of training, showing up on time, showing interest and participating well. They received good solid training from knowledgeable and experienced instructors from the business community. We have already arranged interviews to place several of the trainees, but still need additional openings to provide opportunities for our graduates."

The eighth Initiative program participants were Maggie Aldan, Ayana Angui, Derick Chen, Malia Fitial, Frederick Litulumar, Jeremie Maldangesang, Andave Marchadesch, and Petrus W. Nicky.

The warehousing program included job preparation classes on job applications and résumés, job interviews, equal employment opportunity and sexual harassment, job search responsibilities and employer expectations. Skills training classes were provided on customer service, OSHA requirements, basic warehousing operations, basic warehousing maintenance and forklift operation, culminating in hands-on forklift operation and certification.

Gibson said that the success of the program is also due to the professional skills and interest of the instructors and the business community's willing assistance.

SHRM's partnership with the Division of Youth Services in its Workforce Readiness Initiative is funded by a grant awarded to the CNMI SHRM by the CNMI Division of Youth Services, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, funded by a Community Service Block Grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services in support of the 2013 Leadership and Economic Opportunity for Self-Sufficiency (LEOSS) Program. This Initiative to benefit the Community will hold an additional two training programs through the DYS grant this year.

The Workforce Readiness Initiative and the DYS LEOSS program are for the benefit of unemployed U.S. qualified workers. Sign-up for these Initiative programs will be through DYS. Interested qualified individuals should contact Vivian Sablan, Social Worker IV with DYS, at 664-2559 or 664-2551. If not already registered, it would be to all job-seekers benefit to register with both WIA and the DOL Employment Services. Interested individuals can also contact Gibson by e-mail at hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com.

Although the Initiative does not guarantee a job for every participant, it will make every effort to get each graduate employed. Several companies have committed to accepting Initiative graduates and the Initiative will continue to source jobs through its SHRM-member companies and other employers. More than 60 percent of participants in earlier Initiative programs with the Department of Commerce have been placed. Companies interested in considering Initiative graduates can also contact Gibson at hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Instructor Ben Aldan provides instruction to WFRI student Jeremie Maldangesang. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 27, 2005

Legislature overspends in FY04

Official records show that the Legislature spent more than its budget allotment in fiscal year 2004. Documents obtained by the *Saipan Tribune* through the Open Government Act showed that the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the Legislative Bureau were budgeted a total of $8.988 million, including a $900,000 retirement contribution; they ended up spending a total of $9.052 million, realizing an overspending of some $64,000. Data showed that, of the total allotment, $6.032 million was spent for personnel and $3.020 million for operations or All Other expenses.

Over 2,000 betel nut trees die from disease

An estimated 2,000 to 2,500 betel nut trees have already died due to the spread of the bud rot disease, according to a Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service consultant. Agricultural consultant Isidoro T. Cabrera said yesterday that more trees are getting infected with the disease, caused by a fungus known as *Phytophthora mead*. "There are more that are getting infected every day and every week, and those that are infected will eventually die," Cabrera said, adding that there is urgent need to buy the fungicide that will prevent the fungus from spreading.

May 27, 2006

'Don't touch our money'

That's how retirees summed up their sentiment on the proposal to have the NMI Retirement Fund write off the $123 million debt owed by the government and lend $40 million to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. The Fund's Finance and Investment Committee held a public meeting Thursday night to discuss the Defined Benefit Rescue and Reform Act of 2006, a bill submitted by the administration to the Legislature. The meeting was attended mostly by retirees, although some active Retirement Fund members showed up. It lasted over two hours. During the meeting, retirees expressed strong opposition to forgiving the government's debt and providing CUC a new loan.

Financing for small biz in the Western Pacific

The USDA Rural Development announced a $750,000 award to the Pacific Islands Development Bank to finance business facilities and community development projects in the Western Pacific, including the CNMI. Funds awarded to PIDB were made available through Rural Development's Intermediary Relending Program, which provides a loan to a private nonprofit organization or public entity (intermediary). The loan will be used to fund a revolving account, which in turn will be used to provide financial assistance to ultimate recipients (businesses) involved in community development projects, establishment of new businesses or expansion of existing businesses, and saving and/or creation of jobs in the Western Pacific.

May 27, 2007

NMI minimum wage hike OK'd

The CNMI's lowest-paid workers will be getting a 50-cent wage increase this July, after President Bush signed into law yesterday the bill approving the first minimum wage increase in the CNMI in 11 years. That 50-cent increase on July 24, which will raise the CNMI minimum wage of $3.05 an hour to $3.55 an hour, will kick off the nine-step increase of 50 cents every year that will eventually raise the CNMI minimum wage to the federal level of $7.25 an hour. The wage hike bill applies to both the Northern Marianas and American Samoa. H.R. 2066 also includes a provision requiring the U.S. Labor secretary to conduct a study to assess the impact of the wage increases and to project the impact of any further wage increase on living standards and employment rates in the CNMI and American Samoa.

NMI cervical cancer rate higher than mainland

The CNMI has some of the highest rates of cervical cancer in the world and is even higher than the figures from the U.S. mainland, according to a recent study by the Department of Public Health. DPH project officer Leticia Lochaby said the study showed that 42 women in the CNMI have been diagnosed with cervical cancer, with ages ranging from 25 to 34. Compared to the overall population, Lochaby said this is about five to seven time higher than the U.S. mainland. In the world, the CNMI belongs to the top five, she added. The data was disclosed during a news briefing held at the Chalan Kanoa Diocese Joeten Daidai Building in Susupe Friday morning.

Five FSM mariners rescued in the middle of Pacific

PACIFIC OCEAN—The U.S. Coast Guard, in coordination with the U.S. Navy and the motor vessel *Zeus Leader*, partnered to provide assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia National Police in rescuing five mariners from the Pacific Ocean, 110 nautical miles west of Chuuk Islands.

The mariners in distress originated their voyage on a 19-foot fiberglass skiff traveling from Nomosich, a small island west of Murilo Atoll, to Weno, Chuuk.

Using a high-frequency radio, family members of the overdue mariners contacted the University of Guam Pan-Pacific Education and Communication Experiments by Satellite on Friday, May 24, 2013, and indicated that the vessel had departed Nomosich at 4pm Chamorro Standard Time on May 19, 2013, and were expected to arrive in Chuuk by sunset on the same day. PEACESAT notified the U.S. Coast Guard, which contacted FSM Authorities for more information. FSM agencies, in accordance with their National Search and Rescue Plan, requested assistance from the U.S. Coast Guard in accordance with a longstanding memorandum of understanding under the Compact of Free Association.

The Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Sub-Center Guam requested long-range aircraft support from the U.S. Navy's Fleet Logistic Support Squadron VR62, located in Jacksonville, Florida.

The Coast Guard also contacted a commercial cargo vessel, the Japanese-flagged vessel *Zeus Leader*, who was transiting in the vicinity of the distress location, and requested their assistance. The vessel diverted from their course and maneuvered toward the distress position.

The crew of the U.S. Navy aircraft spotted the overdue skiff at 11:36 am ChST and vectored the *Zeus Leader* toward their location. The *Zeus Leader* then began the process of recovering all of the crew members.

To conclude this successful search and rescue mission, the FSM ship *Palikir* will be meeting the commercial vessel at a predetermined location southwest of Ponhpei and will be transporting the rescued mariners to Chuuk. ***(USCG)***

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

GOING GREEN
Newly-installed wind turbines now adorn the rooftop of the Victoria Hotel in Garapan, becoming one of the growing number of businesses that are harnessing renewable energy sources such as wind and solar to do away with costly electricity from diesel-operated power plants. A pending House of Representatives bill seeks to require business such as hotels to hook up to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to help lower the cost of power once major customers are added to the CUC power grid. Hotels say they are open to negotiations with CUC on a lower rate, considering that hotels have already invested in their own power generators.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Navy, Air Force training on FDM

The U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

■ May 27 from 10:45am to 12:30pm, 3pm to 4:45pm, and 7:15pm to 9pm

■ May 28 from 10:45am to 5pm and 7:15pm to 9pm

■ May 29 from 10:30am to 2pm

■ May 30 from 11:30am to 1pm

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '83 raffle draw set

The MHS Class of 1983's 30th class reunion raffle drawing will be held on Friday, May 31, 2013, 7:30pm at the Minatchom Atdao pavilion in Susupe, Civil Center.

The MHS Class of 1983 general meeting will be on Friday, May 31, 2013, at 7pm. Anyone interested in buying reunion banquet tickets for the class reunion on June 22, 2013, can call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665. ***(PR)***

Red Cross annual meeting

The NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross will be conducting its annual meeting on Wednesday, May 29, at 5:30pm at the Chapter office on Airport Road. All Red Cross volunteers, donors and the general public are welcome. The meeting will provide an overview of Red Cross services as well as a recap of the current fiscal year, financial reports and an election of its board of directors. For more information, call the Chapter at 234-3459 or go to www.redcross.org/nmi. ***(ARC)***

May 31 deadline to file statement of financial interest

The Office of the Public Auditor is reminding all Commonwealth public officials and employees who are required to file a statement of financial interest for calendar year 2012 under the Government Ethics Code Act of 1992 that the deadline for filing a verified statement of financial interests is May 31, 2013. Any person failing to comply with the financial disclosure requirements is subject to penalties, including a $10 per day penalty for periods of delinquency.

For more information, contact OPA at 322-6481/2, fax number 322-7812, or e-mail mail@opacnmi.com. You may also visit OPA's website at www.opacnmi.com for information about filing requirements. ***(OPA)***

FOA to stage 'Miss Saigon'

Miss Saigon comes to Saipan this month, courtesy of the Friends of the Arts. This newest staging of the acclaimed musical will take place on May 30 and 31 for the evening shows. June 1 and 2 have both matinee and evening shows. Show time for matinee begins at 3pm and evening shows begin at 7pm. The venue is the MHS Dolphin Theater. The cost is $15 for adult non-members, $12 for adult FOA members, $8 for students, and $5 for Thespian members.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council
PO Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950,
TEL.: (670)322-6537 FAX: (670)322-6536
TTY (670) 322-6449 EMAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY'13 Second General Membership meeting on Wednesday, May 29, 2013 at Charley's Cabaret, Pacific Islands Club at 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Roll Call by SRC Secretary
III. Review and adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and adoption of the FY '12 Fourth Meeting Minutes (09/20/12)
V. Reports
  A. Sub-Committee Chairpersons
  B. SRC Chairperson
  C. OVR Director
    a) OVR Highlights
    b) Fiscal Status
    c) Consumer Data
VI. Old Business
  A. Comments & Adoption of FY 2014 VR State Plan
  B. 2013 Resource Plan
VII. New Business
  A. 2013 NDEAM
  B. Input on Social Media for SRC
  C. Needs Assessment
VIII. Consumer Forum
IX. Announcements/Miscellaneous
X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) two days before the meeting. For more clarification, please contact Elvira Seman at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY).

/s/ Isidro K. Seman
CHAIRMAN

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SECOND AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement and Delivery of Thirty (30) Proximity Fire Coats and Proximity Fire Pants for the Saipan International Airport Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting (ARFF) Department Project No. CPA-RFP-005-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting for sealed proposals for procurement and delivery of thirty (30) brand new Globe G-XCEL Proximity Jacket and thirty (30) Globe Proximity Fire Pants to the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Department at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all shipping and handling charges and taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract, including excise tax. Size information can be picked up at the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the Saipan International Airport's Arrival Terminal. Additional details are as follows:

Globe G-XCEL Proximity Jacket
1. NFPA Compliant
2. Up to 32" Length
3. Seven (7) ounce PBI/Kevlar Aluminized Outer Shell
4. 82 Aralite NP Quilt Thermal Liner
5. Stedair Moisture Barrier
6. Hook and Dee Rings on Inside/Velcro Outer Closure
7. Cargo/Hand warmer Pockets, 2"x 8"x 8"
8. Self-Material Reinforced Elbows
9. PBI Hand and Wrist Guards
10. 13P Radio Pocket on Left Chest, 3" x 3.5" x 9" with Antenna Notch on Left Side
11. DRD Drag Rescue Device
12. Telescoping Cuffs
13. AXTION Sleeve
14. Thermally Enhanced Upper Body and Elbows
15. 7.5" Long Throat Tab
16. All other standard features of the G-X-CEL
17. Up to Size 58

Globe Proximity Fire Pants
1. NFPA Compliant
2. Seven (7) Ounce PBIO/Kevlar Aluminized Outer Shell
3. 82 Aralite Thermal Liner
4. Stedair Moisture Barrier
5. 6" Back Bib
6. 2" x 10" x 10" Cargo Pockets
7. Expansion Knees
8. Flared Leg Design
9. Arashield Cuffs
10. Reverse Boot Cut
11. Replaceable Self Material Knees with Sewn on Frame
12. "H" Back Suspenders
13. Up to Size 58

CPA will not accept any substitutions to the specified jackets and pants. Proposers shall submit based on the specifications listed above only. Any proposals with substitutions will not be entertained.

One original and three copies of proposal must be in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description and submitted to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Monday, June 10, 2013**.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Delivery timeframe;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format); and
- Valid CNMI Business License.

Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com by no later than Friday, May 24, 2013.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

May 22, 2013
Date

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 104

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A new response in the war on terror

Better late than never, President Obama has moved to establish more rigorous standards for the targeted killings of Americans and foreigners alike away from a battlefield. The need for what he called "strong oversight of all lethal action" was one theme of the president's address Thursday at National Defense University. Another, equally overdue, was his renewed determination to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay and expedite the repatriation of dozens of inmates who have languished there despite being cleared for release.

Beyond these changes in policy, Obama's speech offered tantalizing signals that the president is contemplating a downsizing of what many—but not Obama himself—refer to as the global war on terror. Even as he defended the use of drone strikes and other efforts against "specific networks of violent extremists," the president warned that "a perpetual war—through drones or special forces or troop deployments—will prove self-defeating and alter our country in troubling ways."

In discussing the use of unmanned drones to kill suspected terrorists—a policy that has cost roughly 3,000 lives in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia—Obama didn't acknowledge that he was changing the rules. But he mentioned that he had signed a document on Wednesday that would allow targeted killings only if a suspect posed a "continuing, imminent threat to Americans" and could not otherwise be captured. There also would have to be "near certainty" that civilians wouldn't be killed. Finally, and perhaps most important, Obama said that "the high threshold that we have set for taking lethal action applies to all potential terrorist targets, regardless of whether or not they are American citizens."

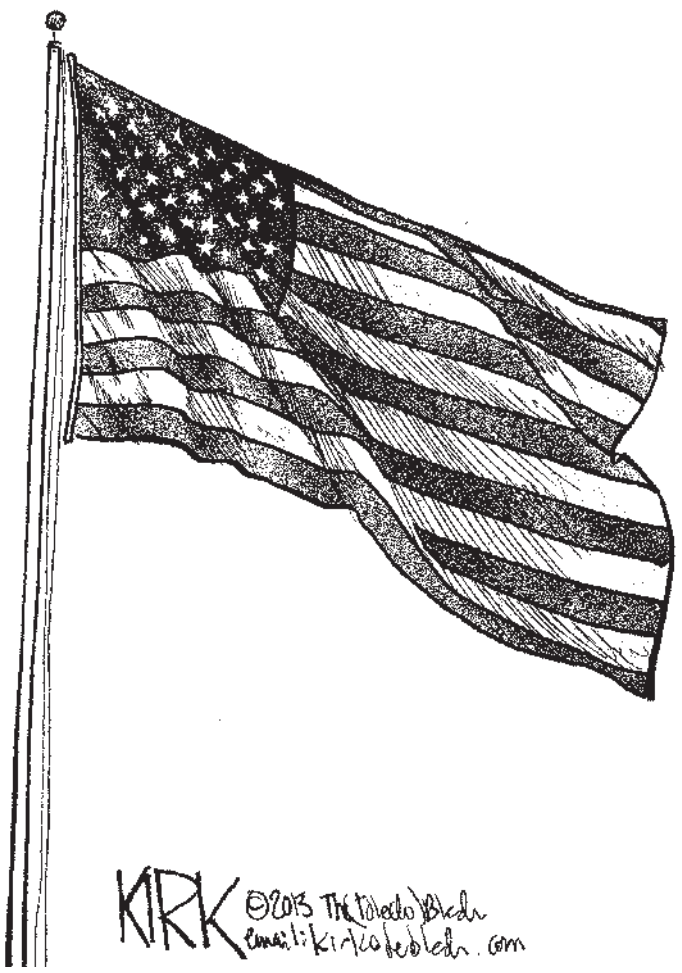
On Guantanamo, Obama said that he would lift an executive branch hold on the repatriation of 59 prisoners from Yemen and indicated that he would press Congress anew to lift other restrictions that have made it impossible to close the facility. He also hinted that he might revisit the decision by an administration task force that more than 40 inmates could be neither put on trial nor released, consigning them to the sort of indefinite detention that Obama has described as "contrary to who we are."

Drones have undermined American diplomacy, and Guantanamo haunts America's global standing today in part because Obama for too long has shied away from a confrontation with Congress over what has become an emblem of overreaction and abuse. His newly muscular language is welcome; even better would be comparably strong action.

Immigration bill a testament to compromise

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted Tuesday to send the bipartisan immigration bill—more formally known as the Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernizing Act—to the full Senate. The 800-plus page bill is by far the most ambitious attempt to overhaul the nation's immigration system in nearly three decades. The version that will reach the floor is, not sur-

See IMMIGRATION on Next Page



"I have never been able to think of the day as one of mourning. I have never quite been able to feel that half-masted flags were appropriate on Decoration Day. I have rather felt that the flag should be at the peak, because those whose dying we commemorate rejoiced in seeing it where their valor placed it. We honor them in joyous, thankful, triumphant commemoration of what they did."

--Benjamin Harrison

Memorial Day USA

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

The spilling of blood by forces of the Union Army let its general initiate a Decoration Day shortly after the American Civil War. It quickly included the fallen grey of the Confederacy. Decoration Day evolved into Memorial Day to remember all those who perished in wars where Americans were combatants.

I used to live in Rosslyn VA across the Potomac from Washington, D.C. and being Mr. Mom in the early '90s, I saw a lot of the Iwo Jima war memorial statue based on the iconic photo of U.S. Marines hoisting the American flag on the summit Mt. Suribachi. *Uncommon valor was common virtues* from Admiral Nimitz is one of two inscriptions on the memorial.

I parked near the shadows of The Netherland's carillon during the noon hour while waiting for my daughter to be nursed by mom, then a program officer of USAID. Her office was a stone's throw from the Arlington cemetery before it moved to the Reagan building.

My ingrained Pinoy nationalism flinched at the numerous times I stared at the etched inscription on the monument of *Philippine Insurrection* among the battles fought by the Marines, remembering in my Philippine history books that the Philippine-American War was at its core the Philippine Revolution for Independence first fought against Spain.

Later, during the Vietnam War, we discovered the atrocities-filled encounter by the then still flannel-attired former farmhands who'd just come from the American Indians Wars in the Plains to inflict their own form of military offenses on what New York characterized as brown monkeys. Images of the Samar massacre would accompany details of the My Lai massacre in Nam during my time.

On a couple of July 4th evenings, we joined motorists at a few Arlington knolls to view firework displays from the Washington Mall. The muggy summers by the Potomac began on the last Monday of May, one of four holidays adjusted to give revelers a three-day weekend, and ended on Labor Day in September. Being the first day of the final wilting of spring, motorists towed their barbecue grills to the park.

The Memorial Day Marianas dynamic is more of a monthlong commemoration on Saipan of the shadows of the Battle of Saipan from June 15 to July 9 that decimated the locals but still invites WWII vets of both sides of the conflict to visit.

War as an instrument of settling territorial disputes has been the empire builders' tool and humanity's foolish bane. We can imagine its origins in the defense of food and fire prerogatives to creatures of the Neolithic period. Technology intensified its ferocity; it does not dampen the rattling of swords in many macho-led governments (both genders). The subdued tone of the Obama-Park condemnation of the Hermit Kingdom's hawkish reflexes is a good sign. It may just have triggered the recent news of Kim III sending feelers to revive talks on nuclear proliferation in the region.

Political gestures of returning to the peace table are miniscule compared to the aggressive stance of marketing the war machine. Half of the U.S. discretionary fund and the country's budget go into maintaining a military stranglehold of the world. Countries in Asia's budgets are doubling at alarming rates. That the U.S. military itself asked Congress not to continue funding military research it does not need indicates that military strategy no longer dictate policy. Commerce does. The trade of war material is profitable!

Perhaps we are inured to the facticity of wasted life, or that "uncommon valor as a common virtue" is but upward mobility to many in the bottom rung of the economic ladder. They enlist into one of the armed services to be numbered among its casualties in distant lands where occupation objectives are never defined, nor battle lines clearly delineated.

Memorial Day commemorates lives snuffed usually before its prime, which makes it by its very nature an occasion for grief and sadness, more so when it precedes the demise of parents and elders. But the impulse to sacrifice the son (and the daughter) at the altar of the nitro-thunder god, long decried as wasteful and unnecessary to authentic children of Abraham, remains an unusual but celebrated virtue even among the Christian bigots of my tradition, and now, within the jihadists of the Muslim renaissance. Unfortunately, it is also lodged deep in jingoistic exceptionalism of American culture.

We have gone past the practice of only identifying heroes from the ranks of those who died in battle. Many unsung heroes get the residue of their common valor into the historical stream. Perhaps Memorial Day can evolve into the remembrance of those who forward with their being the cause of humanity to advance an inch further beyond yesterday's delusions and tomorrow's illusions.

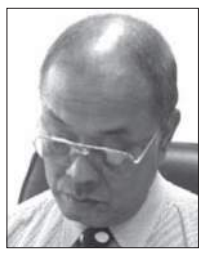
The crisp uniform still inspires, and something about the Marine's Drum and Bugle Corps, and Silent Drill Platoon's weekly sunset presence in the shadows of the monument to the guys from Suribachi that used to raise hairs on our skin. Now, there is only sadness in the continuing waste of lives under the misnomer of defending freedom and democracy.

Down Under dances to waltzing Matilda after Gallipoli. In last week SAU's Oral English competition, one of the participants invoked John Lennon's *Imagine*. We've long sung the plaintive whiffs of giving peace a chance. Will hold a somber memorial day!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The Texas Miracle



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Most leaders across the country have heard and are probing what's known as the Texas Miracle. Other state governments that have attracted their sleepy neighbors include North Dakota and Arizona. Shall we also explore this miracle if only to recalibrate investments here?

Discussing the miracle, Texas Gov. Rick Perry states: "We've been up and down. You can't be the No. 1 exporting state in the nation as we are for the last 11 years and not be impacted by a global economy. From the end of 2008 through 2010 was a very difficult period of time for Texas. We just didn't have as difficult a time as other economies.

"We've kept our tax burden as light as we could and still delivered the services that the people of Texas desire, and we have a regulatory climate that is fair and predictable. I cannot tell you how important are predictability and stability in the regulatory climate.

"And then we passed some of the most sweeping tort reform in the nation in 2003.

"We're sending the message that this is a state where you can risk your capital and know that you can have a chance to have a return on investments. It's a reason that we're leading the nation in job creation. People are fleeing high tax, high regulatory states to come and be a part of what some people refer to as the Texas Miracle. It's not a miracle; as a matter of a fact, it's just common sense."

Florida Gov. Rick Scott has told Newsmax that since the federal government is paying for 100 percent of the Medicaid expansion, he can't "in good conscience" turn down those federal funds. Texas is turning down the funds.

Gov. Perry explains: "I could in good conscience turn the money down because this is a bait and switch. I don't trust the federal government. This is the federal government that doesn't have the money to [detain] illegal immigrants who have come into this country. They're not even keeping them in jail because they don't have the money, so somehow or another they're going to have trillions of dollars to pay for Medicaid expansion? I don't think so.

"The other side of it is that Medicaid is broken. No less a person than the president of the United States in 2009 said Medicaid is broken. I agree with him. So why would you put billions of dollars of your money, and trillions over a 10-year period, into a system that's broken?

"Our point is not only it makes very good economic sense not to get into this, but also the federal government needs to be forced to recognize they have put a broken system into place and let the states, the innovators of healthcare, the innovators of transportation, infrastructure, the innovators of education, let them come up with the best ways to deliver healthcare to their citizens, and you do it with a block grant program."

Isn't it time that we spread our wings to figure out what went right in Texas, North Dakota, and Arizona? Shouldn't this be an issue worth a study collectively by all key players here?

Troubled kids

The Pubic School System endures dealing with troubled kids, the origin of their issues all pointing to the home front. Some hail from broken homes where a single mom struggles daily to make ends meet with over two kids. Dad has abandoned them and so mom works the clock 18 hours a day to cover all fronts.

Or the kids are victims of an abusive dad who drinks more than his share of alcohol then decides to hit both his kids and wife. I've seen cases of young kids with bruises all over as though he or she has just been run over by a dump truck. Yet you sit and ponder why their parents have simply ignored them. Their issues aren't academic, for some are very bright students. It's behavioral that they themselves aren't even aware of since birth.

Teachers and administrators have sought the participation of the parents who've dismissed the invitation for some meaningful discussion. The management and staff of PSS have taken the first step to learning and identifying what may be troubling these students.

Shouldn't mom and dad participate so that they can guide these kids through basic math, reading, and writing to prepare them for what's ahead? It doesn't involve intellectual but basic skills. My personal gratitude to Mr. Vic Cabrera, Jermain Catching and Marjorie Kintol who work for LMA at Hopwood Jr. High for their ultra-sense of dedication helping our troubled kids with or without their parents. It takes a special heart to care for those ignored or neglected at home. *Si Yuus Maase`!*

Vietnam vet's words soothe modern tragedies

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS
Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. *Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.*

There are many kinds of desperation, as many as the stars above and the souls beneath them. The death of a child, the disintegration of a marriage, homes lost to floodwaters and whirlwinds, all of these things can drive you to—and beyond—the point of suicide. And yet, there are sources of strength as varied as the sorrow. For one man, that source was found in unwritten words, tapped out on prison walls and shared with his captured brothers in Vietnam.

Maj. Gen. John Borling, a 6 1/2-year "guest" at the infamous Hanoi Hilton is, like Joyce Kilmer and Wilfred Own, a soldier-poet. Interned under inhuman conditions from 1966 until 1973, he survived by putting words together in his head, memorizing them and then sharing his work with other prisoners, including Sen. John McCain, by using a rudimentary code to tap the words out on walls. When he was finally released from captivity, he recorded the memorized pieces on cassettes. This year, the 40th anniversary of that liberation, his poems have been collected and published in a volume titled *Taps on the Walls: Poems from the Hanoi Hilton.*

In the introduction, Gen. Borling writes "This is a story about the power of the unwritten word. It is a redemptive story—how poetry helped save me during 6 1/2 years as a POW in North Vietnamese prison camps."

The fact that this story is moving comes as no surprise. There is nothing that touches the civilian heart more profoundly than the idea of those who sacrificed freedom, safety and life itself for those who chose not to serve.

What does distinguish this book is the quality of the poetry, far more than simple thoughts gathered in rhyming or dissonant stanzas. So many people have been taught that poetry is simply "emotion trapped in grammar," and not always correct grammar at that. In this Internet age, we have been treated to the random stylings of the hypersensitive, rhymes without much reason and, unfortunately, relevance. But Gen. Borling is an artist, someone capable of capturing the moment in painfully spare phrases.

Here is his rumination on resistance:

"When you cling to values you know are true/Like family, God, the red white and blue/It's your fortress 'gainst indoctrination/When floodwaters rise, breaking mind levee/You go on, though the standard staff heavy/But you live in confirmed desperation."

Reading this book gave me some insight into the character of the men who lived for years in isolation and uncertainty, and who were still able to find within themselves a reason to survive. Whether it be for family, for faith, or out of defiance against their oppressors, they fought back. And they often did so with a sense of gallows humor.

As Sen. McCain wrote in his foreword: "Keeping a sense of humor while in prison was indispensable to our survival. John's words express that humor and more, as there are some stories of the soul that extend far beyond prison walls."

Gen. Borling's work made me think of other poems that represent the strength of the human spirit in the face of overwhelming pain and grief. During these past months, Americans have been subjected to exceptional tragedy, whether manmade or caused by random acts of nature.

Superstorm Sandy battered our coastlines and destroyed the memories of Jersey summers. An evil young man shattered the innocence of children in Newtown, Conn. A joyous celebration of athleticism and freedom was hijacked in Boston by ungrateful immigrants. And Oklahoma was swept up in the brutal whirlwinds.

For them, the healing balm of poetry.

To our beloved neighbors across the bridge, lines from their native son Walt Whitman:

"Nature is incomprehensible at first/Be not discouraged, keep on/ There are divine things well envelop'd/I swear to you there are divine beings/More beautiful than words can tell."

To the mourners in Sandy Hook, words of comfort from John Donne:

"Death be not proud, though some have called thee/Mighty and dreadfull, for thou art not so/ For those whom thou think'st, thou dost overthrow/Die not, poor death, or yet canst thou kill me."

To the runners in Boston who continue to seek the finish line, encouragement from Rudyard Kipling:

"If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew/To serve your turn long after they are gone/And so hold on when there is nothing in you/Except the Will which says to them "Hold on."

And finally, to the homeless in our heartland, inspiration from William Ernest Henley:

"Out of the night that covers me/Black as the Pit from pole to pole/I thank whatever gods may be/For my unconquerable soul."

Whether memorized in a prison camp, handwritten on parchment, typed on onion skin or spoken from the stage on a warm summer's evening in the park, words are powerful. As long as we have the ability to write, read and listen to sentiments like these, I think we'll be fine.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unsustainable benefits

While I do not have direct involvement with the CNMI government's retirement program, I feel very badly that many who have paid into the system will not be able to receive the benefits. In fact, the Fund will run out of money sometime next year.

There are talks about ways to save the Fund, lately floating a bond and using the island of Pagan as collateral. I do not see the logic on this one. What if the CNMI can't pay the bond? Pagan is to be sold then?

Professionals have already stated that floating a bond is not the solution. What then is the solution? I feel the benefits being received should be looked at. It is unsustainable, it is impractical, it is not logical. We all know that. However, are we willing to change it?

It seems to be that it is best for the benefits to be evaluated and changed where it needs to be changed. For a start, what if everyone takes a reduced benefit so that the Fund's life can be extended? Won't it be better to take a cut than come out empty?

Again, I clarify that I have no direct connection to the CNMI government's retirement program. I do, however, know many retirees and care about their well-being. The failure of the retirement program is a failure for all of us.

It is a challenge. Are we going to respond? Or, wait to see what happens or let someone else do it? The picture is rather very clear that there is no money to bail out the Retirement Fund. Obligating the CNMI further with $30 some millions of interest a year on a bond is only generating further problems, especially for the young and future generations.

Efrain F. Camacho
Navy Hill, Saipan

IMMIGRATION

From Page 10

prisingly, imperfect, but the fact that it emerged from committee at all, and largely intact, is a testament to both political parties' willingness to compromise.

The legislation still faces plenty of hurdles. Some Republicans will argue, as they did Wednesday during a House hearing on the bill, that it doesn't go far enough on border and internal enforcement. Others, such as Chris Crane, the head of a union that represents deportation officers, will stoke fears that immigration reform will create some kind of a public safety crisis.

Such arguments, however, are disingenuous. The bill actually sets aside more than $4 billion for drones and other technology to secure the border. And it strengthens internal enforcement by requiring employers to use a system that verifies the immigration status of new hires. More than 35 state attorneys general have publicly come out in support of the measure because they believe it will keep communities safer, not put them in greater danger.

All in all, congressional negotiators from both parties have done a remarkable job of crafting a smart and humane bill that replaces an outdated and dysfunctional visa system with one that looks toward the future economic needs of the United States. It's a bill that encourages the best and brightest minds to come to this country while protecting the interests of American workers.

The Senate bill offers lawmakers an opportunity do to what they were elected to do. We hope they will be courageous enough to stand up to the anti-reform crowd who seek to defeat this landmark legislation.

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

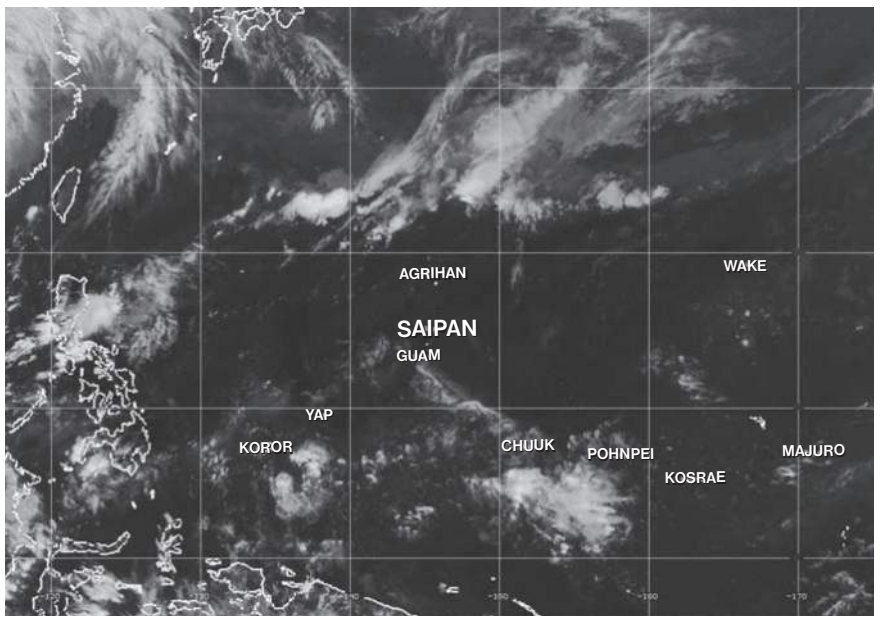
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲89	▼82
Palau	Showers	▲87	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲90	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼81
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85	▼80
Kosrae	Showers	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼52
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼60
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲84	▼80
Honolulu	Windy	▲83	▼73
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼50
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89	▼83
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼44
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼73
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼50
Osaka	Cloudy	▲77	▼66
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼53
Pusan	Showers	▲71	▼65
Rome	Showers	▲66	▼56
Salem	Showers	▲68	▼52
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲58	▼53
Seoul	Showers	▲71	▼65
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲75	▼65
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼54

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A frontal boundary curves westward from north of Wake Island through 25N168E to a low pressure system centered near Iwo To island at 25N140E. This boundary then continues southwestward to beyond 130E at 17N. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found along and up to 225 miles north of this boundary east of 134E. A surface trough runs northward from 1N133E to 10N138E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present near this feature southeast of Koror and south of Yap within 80 miles of a line from 2N136E to 7N138E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southwest of Chuuk to south of Pohnpei between 1N and 6N from 148E to 157E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:08 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
4:29 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
11:31 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:54 PM	7:36 AM
Tuesday	9:51 PM	8:40 AM
Wednesday	10:43 PM	9:42 AM
Thursday	11:31 PM	10:41 AM
Friday		11:38 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)

SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7

SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)

XF1734	4:15pm	10:30pm	4 Every other week eff May 16

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN

SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7

VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN

XF1733	11:20am	3:25pm	4 Every other week eff May 16

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

NMC's 33rd Commencement Exercise

PHOTOS BY
MONETH G. DEPOSA

Northern Marianas College president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., delivers her welcome remarks during Saturday's commencement exercise at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Academic Excellence awardee Jeong Hyun Kwon from the Bachelor of Science Degree program poses for a group photo after receiving this year's top honor. Kwon is shown here with, from left, dean of Academic Services Barbara Merfalen, Board of Regents chair Juan Lizama, and NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D.

One of the four top academic awardees in the associate degree level, Olivia Espeleta Leung from Liberal Arts, third from left, holds the plaque of recognition during the awarding rites Saturday.

NMC's most outstanding graduate, Jeong Hyun Kwon, delivers her address, later receiving a standing ovation from the crowd.

Nursing student Hyo Jeong Kim is all smiles after receiving the academic excellence award.

Carina Suu Lan Train proudly holds her plaque of recognition during Saturday's commencement exercise. Train was one of the Academic Excellence Award recipients and was also the college leadership awardee in the associate degree level.

Anne Julia Padilla poses with college officials upon receiving her Academic Excellence Award.

Top graduate Jeong Hyun Kwon wraps up her speech by doing a violin solo of *Amazing Grace* for her fellow graduates and the crowd.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, second from right, bestows this year's leadership award on Claire Dina Cabrera, third from right, during Saturday's commencement rites at Marianas High School.

Richard Vila Pizarro, the recipient of the Community Service Award, is flanked by NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., and Alumni Association president Jack Kiyoshi.

The top NMC graduate, Jeong Hyun Kwon, right, poses with her fellow graduates Saturday.

The graduates listen to presenters during Saturday's ceremonies.

Japanese group joins annual Fiesta-S.O.P.H.I.A. Walk

The Marianas Walking Association teamed up with title sponsor Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan to host the Annual Fiesta-S.O.P.H.I.A. Walk on May 18, drawing over 120 participants.

Members of the Nippon Turtle Association of Japan also made their annual trek to Saipan to take part in the walk.

The event began with registration at 6pm at the entrance to the hotel. The weather was beautiful, providing a pleasant treat to the walkers.

The staff of Marianas Health Services performed blood pressure and blood sugar screening and respiratory flow screening at no charge.

The youngest male and female walkers both received a medallion. The oldest female walker was Jo Izumi who served as the spokesperson for the Japanese visitors and delivered the opening remarks. She is quite remarkable in that, at age 92, she is still an energetic walker.

The event could not have been carried out without the large number of sponsors and supporters, and the Marianas Walking Association would like to thank them all: Marianas Health Services and their staff, Coca Cola, Joanna's Transportation Services, Island Apparel, KZMI, KKMP, MVA, IT&E, Fiesta Resort and Spa, Commonwealth Cancer Association, PDI, Tan Holdings Corp., and the Kanoa Resort. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The youngest female walker, Ayaka Sato, has her picture taken with Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan resident manager Abner Acosta.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan resident manager Abner Acosta poses with the youngest male walker, Daino Sato.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jack Hardy and Jo Izumi are recognized as the oldest male and female walker respectively.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Perry Tenorio, managing director, Marianas Visitors Authority; Joji Kawaguchi, former PDI president; Jack Hardy, president of the Mariana Walking Association; Katsuya Ishii, member of the Nippon Turtle Association of Japan; and Abner Acosta, resident manager of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Way to go, Bryan Palacios Fernandez, on graduating in this year's NMC Nursing Program! We wish you more success on your upcoming journey and we will support you all the way. Greetings come from the Palacios and Cepeda families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings go out to Juan Iguel! God bless and may you have many more birthdays to come. We love you, too, Lina! Greetings come from the family.

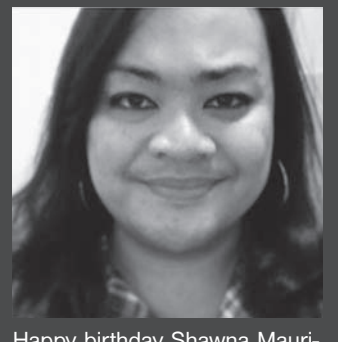
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 12th birthday to our boy, Nygel L. Wabol! May your special day be filled with love and fun and there's still more years for you to enjoy. With love from Dad, Mom, Bing, and the entire Laluso family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 3rd birthday to our precious sweetheart, Taylor Jade Castro Cabrera! From the day you were born we knew that you would the most ideal daughter ever. You were always special and always will be. Birthday wishes and blessings coming your way. We love you. Greetings come from, Mommy, Daddy, Ando, and your entire family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday Shawna Mauricio! May you enjoy your special day and shop 'til you drop in PI! We miss you! Greetings come from, Taylor, Ando, and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guam Guard honors fallen members in ceremony

Family members of four fallen Guard members gather around the Fallen Heroes Memorial to honor and remember the four fallen Guard members during the annual Fallen Heroes Memorial Ceremony held at the Guam National Guard's Barrigada Army Readiness Center.
CPT KEN OLA

Three years ago, the names of four of the Guam National Guard's fallen warriors were enshrined on a monument, newly built and dedicated in front of the Guam National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Barrigada.

On Friday morning, family, friends, and fellow warriors once again gathered to remember and honor the memories of the four fallen soldiers in a private and solemn ceremony, under a virtual cloud of mourning for two other soldiers recently killed in action in Afghanistan.

The soldiers honored during the ceremony were Sg.t Gregory Fejeran and Sgt. Christopher Fernandez, who both died during their deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in the Horn of Africa in 2007, and Sgt. Brian Leon Guerrero and Sgt. Samson Mora, who were killed in action in 2008 while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

The ceremony was attended by family members and friends of the four Guam Guardmembers. Fellow soldiers, airmen and civilian employees in the Guam Guard also joined in the commemoration, taking turns at the end of the ceremony to render a proper salute or whisper a short prayer.

SGM Mark Ishmael, who was Fejeran's recruiter, remembered his time of service with Fejeran and Fernandez while in the Horn of Africa.

Soldiers and airmen line up to salute fallen Guard members during the annual Fallen Heroes Memorial Ceremony held at the Guam National Guard's Barrigada Army Readiness Center. CPT KEN OLA

"They were no ordinary soldiers by any measure. I could tell you that they were motivated, competent, mission-driven men who represented their country, their island, and people with honor and distinction. Majority knew that," he said.

"I will always remember Greg with a smile on his face and music in his heart. There was never a bad day when Greg was around… For Chris Fernandez, his very presence made you feel safe… He made you feel safe with his warmth and his attitude that knew everything was going to be alright," Ishmael remembered.

Maj. Manny Duenas, who was executive officer for Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, the unit Leon Guerrero and Mora deployed with, also reminisced about his time with his two soldiers.

"I could see the love he had for life and the dedication he had for his family and the Guam Army National Guard. Sgt. Leon Guerrero was a confident, quiet individual who was unwavering in his commitment to Alpha Company's mission. He did what was asked of him, no matter how daunting the task. He made the other leaders of the company proud to have served with him," Duenas said of Leon Guerrero.

About Mora, Duenas recalled, "I spent my deployment on the same [Forward Operating Base] as Sgt. Mora, and I can tell you this, he was very much loved by his fellow soldiers. He willingly went with his platoon on patrols as they worked to make Ghazni district a better place than they found it. They were able to accomplish this and earned the respect of the other units in Ghazni."

Throughout and after the ceremony, the quietness lingered, even as uniformed personnel began packing up equipment and other attendees slowly slipped away.

The two most recent Guam Guard losses, Sgt. Eugene M. Aguon of Mangilao and SPC Dwayne W. Flores of Sinajana, were killed May 16, in Afghanistan's capital city of Kabul, when their convoy was attacked by a car bomb. They were from the 1-294th Infantry Regiment, assigned as Task Force Guam, working as part of the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan, International Security Assistance Force, which supports the government of Afghanistan in developing and sustaining the Afghan National Security Forces.

The memorial, sitting at the entrance of the JFHQ, consists of a bronze inverted rifle display, atop a three-foot high latte stone pedestal. A large bronze plaque adorns the front side of the pedestal inscribed with the dedication of the memorial to the Guam Guard's Fallen Heroes. On the left and right sides of the pedestal are two smaller bronze plaques with the names of each of the four fallen Guam Guard members.

The latte stone has become a traditional icon for Guam. It looks like a pillar capped by a hemispherical stone capital with the flat side facing up. The structure was used as building supports by the ancient island inhabitants, called Chamorros. These stone pillars are found throughout most of the Mariana Islands. ***(PR)***

Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, The Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard, left, and CSM Dan Elliott, GUNG Senior Enlisted Adviser, lead troops in honoring the fallen Guard members during the annual Fallen Heroes Memorial Ceremony held at the Guam National Guard's Barrigada Army Readiness Center.
CPT KEN OLA

Business

Delta ups the ante in battle for NY travel market

NEW YORK (AP)—Delta's formula for winning over New York travelers is simple: floor-to-ceiling windows, abundant power outlets and a burger joint with a cult-like following.

The airline opened a sprawling $1.4 billion terminal at Kennedy Airport Friday, a facility more suitable to the high-paying passengers it is trying to attract.

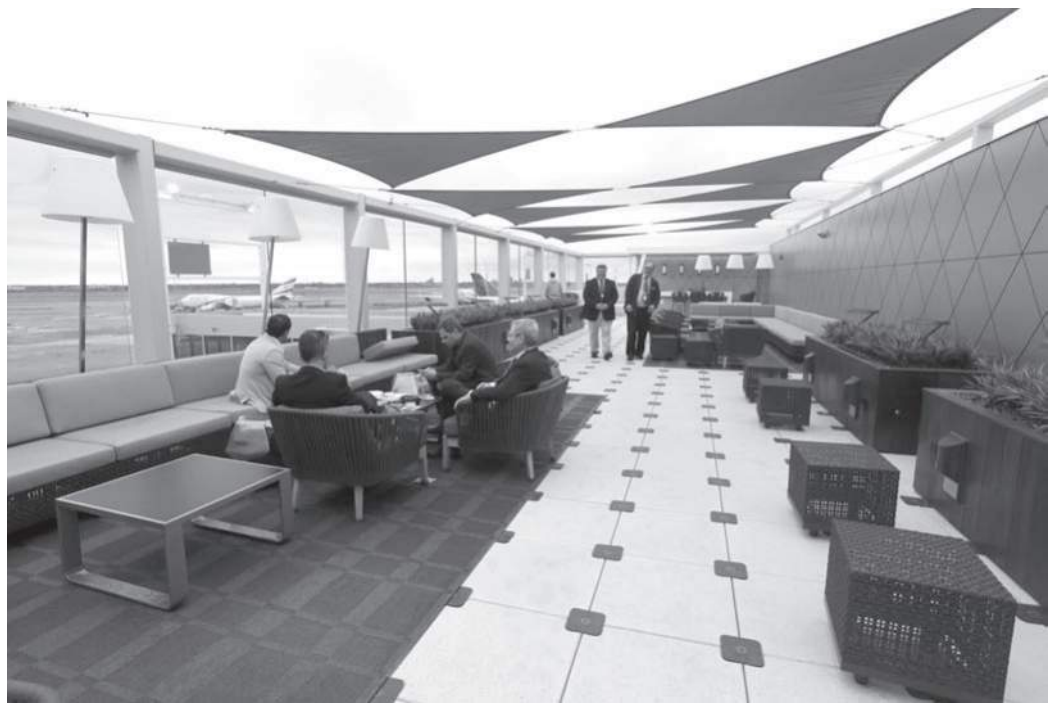
The 346,000-square-foot concourse offers upscale food and shopping options, increased seating and sweeping views of the airport.

It replaces a terminal built by Pan Am in 1960 that was once cutting-edge but had deteriorated, becoming an embarrassing way to welcome millions of visitors to the United States.

Delta Air Lines CEO Richard Anderson said his customers "and the residents of New York now have the international hub facility that they expect and deserve."

Kennedy Airport is still the primary gateway to the U.S. It welcomed 13.1 million inbound international passengers last year, more than any other American airport, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Miami International Airport was next at 9.8 million, followed by Los Angeles International Airport at 8.3 million.

Delta carries about 2.1 million of those arriving international passengers at JFK, more than any other airline, according to the airport's operator, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.



AP

Passengers wait for their flight in the outdoor patio in the Delta airlines Sky club at terminal 4 at JFK airport, Friday, May 24, 2013 in New York.

The facility doesn't compare to the over-the-top cathedrals to air travel that some cities in Asia and the Middle East have built in the last decade. But travelers will appreciate both the big and small touches. The concourse houses local restaurant favorites like Blue Smoke and Shake Shack, a New York-based burger chain. Meanwhile, 75 percent of seats at the gates have access to electric outlets.

The most unique part is a 2,000-square-foot rooftop deck that offers a close-up view of the runways and airplanes. But it is part of a new Delta Sky Club—the largest in the Atlanta-based airline's system—accessible only to members or passengers flying in transcontinental or international business class.

Like at any modern airport, fliers should be prepared for a long walk—it can take up to 15 minutes to reach the furthest gate.

"I did need a plane ride to get from the entrance to here today," joked U.S. Rep. Joe Crowley, D-N.Y.

The expansion added nine new gates at the terminal. Construction is expected to soon begin on 11 additional gates for Delta's smaller regional jets.

The airline hopes by 2015 to move all of its operations to Terminal 4. Until then, Delta will use a fleet of ten buses to shuttle passengers between Terminal 4 and its other operation in Terminal 2. Delta's lease in that terminal ends in 2020.

New York is one of the few big cities in the U.S. not dominated by one airline. Carriers fight viciously to win the business of bankers, lawyers and consultants based in the city whose companies pay top dollar for last-minute flights.

United Airlines, which primarily flies out of Newark Liberty International Airport—across the Hudson River in New Jersey—is the region's largest carrier, flying 27.4 million passengers in the 12 months ending in March.

Delta is now a close second, with 23 million passengers annually in New York. JetBlue follows with 14.6 million and then comes American Airlines with 13.9 million.

"Not only is New York the largest single U.S. air travel market, but and is also the largest premium business airline market in the country," said Henry Harteveldt, a travel industry analyst with Hudson Crossing. "Airlines that serve New York must bring their `A game' to everything they do, including the airport experience."

Summer travel forecast: Better, but no blowout

NEW YORK (AP)—This summer, high rollers are flying to lavish hot spots for their vacations. The rest of us are driving to less luxurious places like nearby campgrounds.

The good news: At some U.S. campgrounds these days you get live bands, air guitar contests and chocolate pudding slip `n slides.

Americans' plans for summer travel mirror the current state of the economy. Rising home prices and a soaring stock market are encouraging those at the top of the income ladder to take more extravagant trips. But large segments of the population are staying close to home because wages are stagnant, rents are high and the end of the payroll tax holiday has shrunk their take-home pay.

For a travel industry still stinging from the Great Recession, that likely means another summer of steady, but slow, recovery.

AAA, one of the nation's largest leisure travel agencies, isn't expecting a resounding start to vacation season this Memorial Day. Citing the "up and down economy," AAA expects 31.2 million Americans to hit the road this weekend, virtually the same number as last year. Throw in planes, trains and buses, and the number of travelers will drop about 1 percent, AAA says.

As vacationers set out this summer, here's what they can expect:

■ Gas prices about the same as last year. The national average price of gasoline was $3.65 a gallon Friday, 1 cent higher than during last year's Memorial Day weekend. Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at GasBuddy.com, expects prices to drift lower after the holiday and fall close to last summer's low of $3.33 per gallon before hurricane season starts to drag them up again.

■ More expensive hotel rooms. The average hotel will cost $112.21, before taxes and any other add-on such as resort fees. That's up 4.4 percent from last year's $107.52, according to hotel research firm STR. Hotels are also expected to be slightly fuller, with occupancy rates climbing from 69.3 percent last summer to 70 percent this year.

■ Packed planes, steady airfare. Airlines for America, the industry's lobby group, expects 208.7 million people to fly, up 1 percent from last year. About 87 percent of airplane seats will be filled with paying passengers. Domestic fliers will pay $421 on average for a round trip ticket, down $6 from last summer. International fliers will pay $1,087, up $8, according to the Airlines Reporting Corp.

■ Amtrak expects to meet or exceed the 8.3 million passengers it carried last summer. But the taxpayer-backed railroad wouldn't disclose how fares compare with last summer's average one-way ticket of $66.39.

Mike Klopp, a commercial insurance salesman in Irvine, Calif., is starting to feel better about the economy. He and his wife plan to take their three kids on a vacation up the coast to Monterey in August—a trip they skipped last year.

But Klopp says local trips are the limit because they're cheaper. Like many others, he's not yet willing to splurge on a dream vacation.

Vintage Apple computer auctioned off for $668,000

BERLIN (AP)—An auctioneer says one of Apple's first computers—a functioning 1976 model—has been sold for a record 516,000 euros ($668,000).

German auction house Breker said Saturday an Asian client, who asked not to be named, bought the so-called Apple 1, which the tech company's founders Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak built in a family garage.

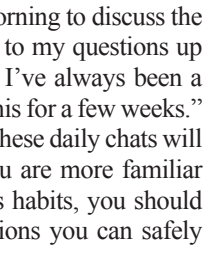
Breker claims it is one of only six known remaining functioning models in the world. Breker already sold one last year for 492,000 euros.

It says the computer bears Wozniak's signature. An old business transaction letter from the late Jobs also was included.

The Apple 1, which was sold for $666 in 1976, consisted of only the circuit board. A case, a keyboard and a screen had to be bought separately.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. *Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.*

Make a plan to pin down boss on project details

QUESTION: I was recently hired as the executive assistant to a company president. On my second day, he gave me a project to do, then took off the afternoon to play golf. I had questions about this assignment, so I called his cellphone and sent an email, but got no response.

Two days later, the president left a note instructing me to send some information "to all our managers." Being new, I wasn't sure who should be included on this list, so I tried to reach him. Again, he did not reply.

Now, when I have questions, I'm not sure whether to use my own judgment or continue trying to get in touch with him. I don't want him to think I'm incapable of making decisions, but I've learned over the years that assumptions can be dangerous. How should I handle this?

ANSWER: Since executive assistants are typically expected to be mind readers, learning to anticipate the preferences of your new boss is obviously a top priority. So instead of making risky guesses or stalking him on the golf course, try to establish a routine for getting the information you need.

For example: "Since I'm still learning about the company, I wondered if we might touch base every morning to discuss the day's events. That way, I can get answers to my questions up front and avoid interrupting you later on. I've always been a fast learner, so we should only have to do this for a few weeks."

As you settle into your job, the need for these daily chats will lessen and eventually disappear. Once you are more familiar with the company culture and your boss's habits, you should be able to accurately predict which decisions you can safely make on your own.

■■■

Q: After our manager screened several applicants for a vacant position, she had the staff talk with the two finalists to see if they "matched the personality of the office." While interviewing these women, my co-workers asked some questions that seemed very inappropriate.

Here are three examples:

■ "Which Disney princess do you identify with and why?"

■ "If I had something stuck between my teeth, would you tell me?"

■ "If you found out that a co-worker was having sex with a manager, what would you do?"

Not only was I embarrassed by these questions, but I also don't believe they will help to determine whether someone fits into our group. Do you agree?

A: Just when I think I've heard everything, someone tells me a story like this. You are, of course, absolutely correct to be appalled by these tasteless inquiries. The first two questions are just silly, while the third is highly offensive. And none of them has anything to do with the job.

Unfortunately for your department, this ridiculous interview may actually have the unintended consequence of driving desirable applicants away. Many sensible people will want no part of an office where sex between colleagues is a common topic and people use cartoon characters to assess personality.

Nation

Obama refocuses terror threat to pre-9/11 level

WASHINGTON (AP)—Some call it wishful thinking, but President Barack Obama has all but declared an end to the global war on terror.

Obama is not claiming final victory over extremists who still seek to kill Americans and other Westerners. Instead, he is refocusing the long struggle against terrorism that lies ahead, steering the United States away from what he calls an equally frightening threat—a country in a state of perpetual war. In doing so, Obama recasts the image of the terrorists themselves, from enemy warriors to cowardly thugs and resets the relationship between the U.S. and Islam.

His speech Thursday was designed to move America's mindset away from a war footing and refine and recalibrate his own counterterrorism strategy. Obama asserted that al-Qaida is "on the path to defeat," reducing the scale of terrorism to pre-Sept. 11 levels. That means that with the Afghanistan war winding down, Obama is unlikely to commit troops in large numbers to any conflict—in Syria or other countries struggling with instability in the uncertain aftermath of the Arab Spring—unless, as his critics fear, he tragically has underestimated al-Qaida's staying power.

"Wishing the defeat of terrorists does not make it so," said Rep. Mac Thornberry, a Texas Republican who is vice chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and a member of the House Intelligence Committee.

In Thornberry's view, Obama is pushing the idea that "we can simply declare al-Qaida beaten and go back to the pre-9/11 era."

Obama

From the beginning of his presidency, Obama's centerpiece of his national security strategy has been a desire to move beyond the wars he inherited in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as in the shadowy spaces occupied by al-Qaida and its offshoots now creeping up in North Africa and elsewhere.

Those endeavors consumed enormous amounts of his administration's time and attention during his first term, not to mention the incalculable costs paid by military members and their families.

"This war, like all wars, must end," he said. "That's what history advises. That's what our democracy demands."

As Obama edges toward a new approach to national security, his political opponents are quick to raise doubts.

"Too often, this president has sought to end combat operations through rhetoric rather than reality," GOP Rep. Howard P. "Buck" McKeon of California, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, said Friday.

"He has declared the war in Iraq over, but the insurgency there continues. He has declared an end to combat operations in Afghanistan, but the Taliban fight on. He has now declared the war on terrorism over, despite a terrorist attack in Britain this week, a terrorist attack in Boston last month and a terrorist attack in Libya that left a U.S. ambassador and three other Americans dead last year."

Yet the president cautioned against a return to what he called a complacency in counterterrorism before Islamic extremists hijacked U.S. jetliners and slammed them into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"Make no mistake," he said, "our nation is still threatened by terrorists," noting that the deadly attacks in Benghazi, Libya, last September and in Boston last month were tragic reminders.

But he also left little doubt that he thinks it is time to turn the page on the post-9/11 approach. He was referring not only to the controversial use of armed drones to target terrorists in Pakistan, Afghanistan and other countries, but also the commitment of tens of thousands of U.S. ground troops in conventional fighting.

San Antonio flooding kills 2; 200-plus rescued

AP
Marco Fairchild, left, and Gary Garza, right, help Sueann Schaller from her car Saturday, May 25, 2013 in San Antonio after she drove it into floodwaters in the Westwood Village neighborhood.

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Torrential rains swamped San Antonio with flash floods on Saturday, leaving at least two people dead as emergency workers rushed to rescue more than 200 residents stranded in cars and homes.

"It was pretty crazy," said Gera Hinojosa, a valet parking cars downtown after the storm. "It was pretty unexpected. We hardly got any warning about it."

For two women, the storm turned fatal.

One became trapped in her car and climbed to the roof before being swept away in floodwaters, said San Antonio Fire Department spokesman Christian Bove. Her body was later found against a fence, he said. Her name was not immediately released.

Emergency officials also found the body of a woman who was swept away in her car while firefighters were trying to rescue her. Her name also was not released, but Bove said she was in her 60s.

In suburban Schertz, a teenage boy who was swept away while trying to cross the swollen Cibolo Creek was still missing Saturday night.

The Fire Department conducted more than 235 rescues across the city, some by inflatable boats, authorities said. They continued their search into the evening.

"We'll be out there as long as daylight permits and again in the morning if the water recedes," San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood said, adding that going into floodwaters was more dangerous for firefighters than entering a burning building.

By nightfall, water still pooled in ditches and underpasses. Several roadways were closed, including a major highway that links the suburbs and the city.

But even in low-lying neighborhoods along Commerce Street east of downtown—a faded stretch of clapboard houses and beauty parlors—yards were clear. In the tourist district around the River Walk, the streets were thick with weekend revelers.

While the water in some homes rose 4 feet high, according to Bove, most residents experienced the floods primarily as a major traffic hassle. Karen Herring, 50, who spent the day volunteering at a fitness contest at the AT&T Center, said participants complained of three-hour drives across town.

Brent Rose, 39, a law enforcement officer who drove in for the contest from the semi-rural northern suburbs, said the damage extended beyond the city.

"We had some fences rolled over by the water," Rose said. "Some farm animals went astray. But not a big deal."

In the city, even a municipal bus was swept away, but firefighters on a boat were able to rescue the three passengers and driver, public transit spokeswoman Priscilla Ingle said. Nobody was injured.

The San Antonio International Airport by Saturday afternoon had recorded 9.87 inches of rain since midnight, causing nearly all streams and rivers to experience extraordinary flooding. The highest amount of rainfall recorded since midnight was 15.5 inches at Olmos Creek at Dresden Drive.

Mayor Julian Castro urged residents not to drive.

"We have had too many folks who continue to ignore low-water warnings," Castro said at a Saturday afternoon news conference.

A flash flood warning was issued for nearly two dozen counties, with up to 4 inches of rainfall forecast overnight.

NY's Main Beach tops annual survey of best beaches

EAST HAMPTON, N.Y. (AP)—This may be hard to believe in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, but an annual list of the best beaches in the country has a New York beach ranked No. 1.

Less surprisingly, that beach is in East Hampton, the vacation playground for the rich and famous.

In an announcement that coincides annually with the unofficial start of summer, coastal expert Stephen P. Leatherman on Friday released the 23rd version of his Top 10 Beach List, placing Main Beach in East Hampton at the top.

"The thing about the Hamptons is that people are so proud of their beaches out there," Leatherman told The Associated Press in an interview in advance of the release of his list. "People pick up their litter there, the bathrooms are clean; they provide good services."

Leatherman, who goes by the nickname Dr. Beach, visited Main Beach earlier this month. He said that unlike many beaches farther to the west and in New Jersey, the beaches on eastern Long Island saw less erosion and flooding from the effects of Superstorm Sandy.

"Considering the magnitude of the storm, people will be very pleased to see that Main Beach is the way they remember it," he said.

Leatherman, a professor at Florida International University in Miami, has visited beaches around the world and uses criteria like water and sand quality, as well as safety and environmental management, to compile his annual list. Once a beach reaches the pinnacle of No. 1, it is retired from future consideration, he said.

Coopers Beach in nearby Southampton, N.Y., was the No. 1 pick in the 2010 survey. Sarasota, Fla.'s Siesta Beach was tops in 2011 and Coronado Beach in California earned the top spot in 2012.

The other nine on Leatherman's 2013 list after Main Beach are: Kahanamoku Beach, Waikiki, Hawaii; St. George Island State Park, Fla.; Hamoa Beach, Maui, Hawaii; Waimanalo Bay State Park, Oahu, Hawaii; Barefoot Beach Preserve County Park, Bonita Springs, Fla.; Cape Florida State Park, Key Biscayne, Fla.; Cape Hatteras, Outer Banks, N.C.; Coast Guard Beach, Cape Cod, Mass.; and Beachwalker Park, Kiawah Island, S.C.

East Hampton village residents have free access to Main Beach, although parking permits are required from May 15 to Sept. 15. Non-residents can buy parking passes at $25 per day but they are limited in number, with only 40 non-resident daily parking passes sold on weekends and holidays.

Max Scainetti, a lifelong East Hampton resident, said the tiny grains of tan sand and the cleanliness of the beach are two of the things that make Main Beach special.

"This is one of the best beaches in the country and I've been to a lot of beaches," Scainetti said. "I think basically it's a lot to do with the sand. A lot of Long Island beaches tend to be rocky where these are more sandy beaches."

Javier Baldo, an East Hampton cook, said he has visited Main Beach regularly for about eight years.

"It's fairly civilized. It doesn't get too crowded. The water is delicious," he said. Delicious? "It's really great water, it's really clean. You just have a lot of space."

Baldo said celebrities are sometimes seen at the beach, but people generally keep to themselves.

"It's quiet, there's no loud music playing. It's obviously very safe; great lifeguards. There are really great lifeguards. They're actually fit and very well experienced. That's a big thing, just the safety," he said.

Asia

NEW WORLD RECORD AP

In this photo released by Middle Way Meditation Institute, Philippines, through Nutannan Srithorn, thousands of youths release into the sky paper lanterns to celebrate "World Peace Through Meditation" in an attempt to break a Guinness World Record Friday May 24, 2013 at the University of the Philippines campus at Miagao, Iloilo city in central Philippines. The Philippines is the new record holder of the most number of sky lanterns released in a single event. Guinness World Records adjudicator Seyda Subasi-Gemici announced that the 15,185 sky lanterns flown from the football field of University of the Philippines Visayas in Miag-ao town of Iloilo province has set a new world record. "It's officially amazing," she told an estimated crowd of 20,000. The old record in 2012, the 12,740 sky lanterns were released in a single event in Romania during the opening of a shopping mall.

14 killed in new anti-terrorism offensive in the Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—At least 14 Philippine marines and Abu Sayyaf militants were killed in a clash in a new U.S.-backed offensive aimed at rescuing six foreign and Filipino hostages and stopping the al-Qaida-linked gunmen from staging more kidnappings in the country's south, a military commander said Sunday.

Seven marines and seven Abu Sayyaf fighters were killed in the gunbattle, which raged for an hour Saturday in a sparsely populated village near coastal Patikul town in Sulu province. Six marines and about 10 gunmen were wounded, marine Col. Jose Cenabre said.

Government troops backed by assault helicopters were hunting down the fleeing militants, who were believed to be led by Jul-Aswan Sawadjaan, an Abu Sayyaf commander accused in the kidnappings of a Jordanian journalist and two European bird watchers who are still being held by the militants.

One of Sawadjaan's sons and a minor Abu Sayyaf commander are believed to have been killed in the firefight, said Cenabre, who heads security forces in Sulu. He said the marines initially had difficulty returning fire because the dozens of militants took cover near a row of houses.

The firefight was part of a new military offensive that started last week and is aimed at rescuing the three foreign captives, who were abducted last year, along with three Filipinos kidnapped separately by the militants in recent weeks, he said.

Although a large number of marines and policemen are involved in the offensive, only small units have been deployed to hunt down the Abu Sayyaf in two jungle encampments in Sulu, Cenabre said without providing details of the operation. U.S. forces were providing intelligence but were not involved in actual combat, he said.

2-child limit for Muslims in parts of Myanmar

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Authorities in Myanmar's western Rakhine state have imposed a two-child limit for Muslim Rohingya families, a policy that does not apply to Buddhists in the area and comes amid accusations of ethnic cleansing in the aftermath of sectarian violence.

Local officials said Saturday that the new measure would be applied to two Rakhine townships that border Bangladesh and have the highest Muslim populations in the state. The townships, Buthidaung and Maundaw, are about 95 percent Muslim.

The unusual order makes Myanmar perhaps the only country in the world to impose such a restriction on a religious group, and is likely to fuel further criticism that Muslims are being discriminated against in the Buddhist-majority country.

China has a one-child policy, but it is not based on religion and exceptions apply to minority ethnic groups. India briefly practiced forced sterilization of men in a bid to control the population in the mid-1970s when civil liberties were suspended during a period of emergency rule, but a nationwide outcry quickly shut down the program.

16 children, 1 teacher die in Pakistan bus fire

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)—Sixteen schoolchildren and a teacher burned to death in eastern Pakistan early Saturday when a short-circuit near a leaking gas tank caused their minibus to burst into flames, police said.

Police officer Ijaz Ahmad said five children were also injured, three of whom were listed in critical condition, in the blaze in Gujrat about 200 kilometers (120 miles) northwest of the capital, Islamabad. The children were aged between 6 and 12, he said.

Earlier, police had blamed an exploding natural gas cylinder for the incident. The bus was powered with both types of fuel.

Suspected rebels kill 28, wound 24 in east India

NEW DELHI (AP)—About 200 suspected Maoist rebels set off a land mine and opened fire on a convoy of cars carrying local leaders and supporters of India's ruling Congress party in the country's east, killing at least 28 people and wounding 24 others, police said.

Senior police officer M. Gupta said the attack occurred Saturday in the Sukma area, about 215 miles (345 kilometers) south of Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh state.

The convoy was attacked in a forested area as the Congress members were returning to the state capital after attending a party rally, said Ram Niwas, a state police official.

Two state party leaders and five police officers were among those killed, said R.K. Vij, another police officer. Other victims were party supporters.

"We are devastated," said Congress party President Sonia Gandhi, who denounced what she called a "dastardly attack" on the country's democratic values.

World

Anti-Muslim actions rise in Britain over slain soldier

LONDON (AP)—Police, politicians and activists in Britain are warning of rising anti-Muslim sentiment following the slaughter of an off-duty British soldier in a London street, an apparent act of Islamic extremism that has horrified the nation.

Metropolitan Police investigating the killing of Lee Rigby, a 25-year-old soldier who was run over by attackers then butchered by knives, arrested three more men in the murder investigation Saturday. Stun guns were used on two of the three men, aged 24 and 28, police said.

The latest arrests came as an estimated 1,500 members of an extremist right-wing group called the English Defense League marched in the northern English city of Newcastle, chanting Rigby's name. In the southern English city of Portsmouth, police arrested two men for a racially motivated assault as hundreds of demonstrators gathered near one mosque, while several more people were detained for alleged racist offenses elsewhere.

The two men suspected of killing the soldier, Michael Adebolajo, 28, and Michael Adebowale, 22, remained under armed guard in separate London hospitals after police shot them at the scene. Police have not officially named the suspects because they have not been charged, but British officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to discuss the investigation, have confirmed their names to The Associated Press.

Wednesday's murder in southeast London's Woolwich area shocked the nation partly because the horrific scenes were recorded on witnesses' cellphones, and a video picked up by British media showed one of the two suspects, his hands bloodied, making political statements and warning of further violence as the soldier lay on the ground behind him.

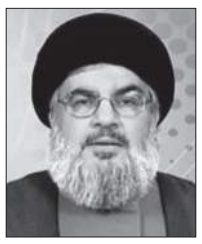
Counter-terrorism police also are questioning a friend of Adebolajo who was arrested Friday night immediately after he gave BBC Television an interview detailing why he thought Adebolajo may have become radicalized.

Hezbollah chief commits to victory in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—The leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah militant group vowed to help propel President Bashar Assad to victory in Syria's bloody civil war, warning that the fall of the Damascus regime would give rise to extremists and plunge the Middle East into a "dark period."

In a televised address, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah also said Hezbollah members are fighting in Syria against Islamic radicals who pose a danger to Lebanon, and pledged that his group will not allow Syrian militants to control areas along the Lebanese border. He pledged that Hezbollah will turn the tide of the conflict in Assad's favor, and stay as long as necessary to do so.

"We will continue this road until the end, we will take the responsibility and we will make all the sacrifices," he said. "We will be victorious."


Nasrallah

The Hezbollah leader's comments offered the clearest public confirmation yet that the Iranian-backed group is directly involved in Syria's war. They also were Nasrallah's first remarks since Hezbollah fighters have pushed to the front lines of the battle for the strategic Syrian town of Qusair near the Lebanese frontier.

The fighting in Qusair, which government troops backed by Hezbollah pounded with artillery on Saturday, has laid bare the Lebanese Shiite group's growing role in the Syrian conflict. Hezbollah initially tried to play down its involvement, but could no longer do so after dozens of its fighters were killed in the town and buried in large funerals in Lebanon.

Nasrallah, who was speaking on the anniversary of Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon in May 2000, used his speech in part to brace the community for the possibility of more of its men returning home in coffins.

Fragments of biblical treasure are up for sale

JERUSALEM (AP)—Parts of the Dead Sea Scrolls are up for sale—in tiny pieces.

Nearly 70 years after the discovery of the world's oldest biblical manuscripts, the Palestinian family who originally sold them to scholars and institutions is now quietly marketing the leftovers—fragments the family says it has kept in a Swiss safe deposit box all these years.

Most of these scraps are barely postage-stamp-sized, and some are blank. But in the last few years, evangelical Christian collectors and institutions in the U.S. have forked out millions of dollars for a chunk of this archaeological treasure. This angers Israel's government antiquities authority, which holds most of the scrolls, claims that every last scrap should be recognized as Israeli cultural property, and threatens to seize any more pieces that hit the market.

"I told Kando many years ago, as far as I'm concerned, he can die with those scrolls," said Amir Ganor, head of the authority's anti-looting squad, speaking of William Kando, who maintains his family's Dead Sea Scrolls collection. "The scrolls' only address is the State of Israel."

Kando says his family offered its remaining fragments to the antiquities authority and other Israeli institutions, but they could not afford them.

"If anyone is interested, we are ready to sell," Kando told The Associated Press, sitting in the Jerusalem antiquities shop he inherited from his late father. "These are the most important things in the world."

The world of Holy Land antiquities is rife with theft, deception, and geopolitics, and the Dead Sea Scrolls are no exception.

Their discovery in 1947, in caves by the Dead Sea east of Jerusalem, was one of the greatest archaeological events of the 20th century. Scholarly debate over the scrolls' meaning continues to stir high-profile controversy, while the Jordanian and Palestinian governments have lodged their own claims of ownership.

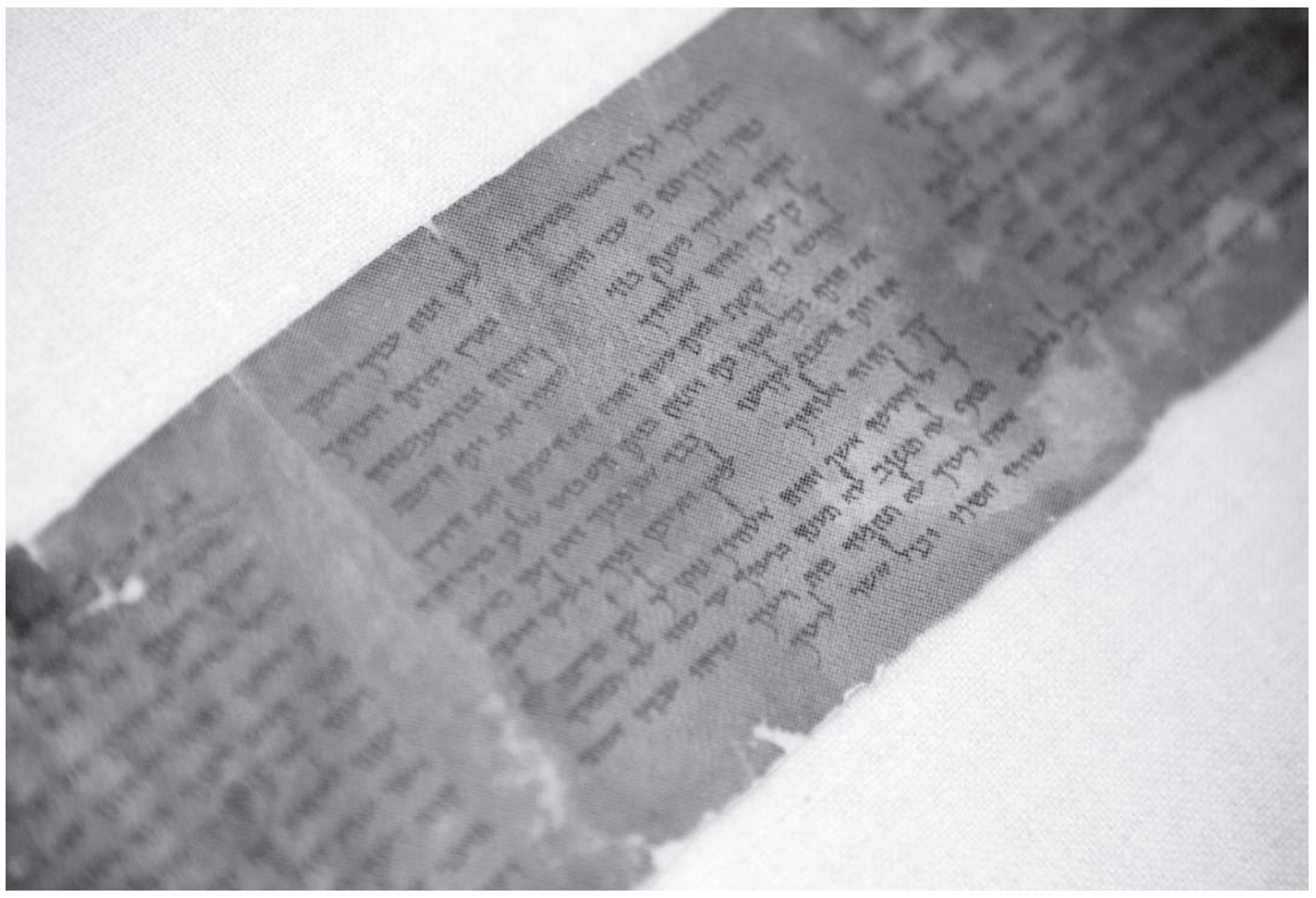
But few know of the recent gold rush for fragments—or Israel's intelligence-gathering efforts to track their sale.

Written mostly on animal skin parchment about 2,000 years ago, the manuscripts are the earliest copies of the Hebrew Bible ever found, and the oldest written evidence of the roots of Judaism and Christianity in the Holy Land.

They are also significant because they include the Hebrew originals of non-canonical writings that had only survived in ancient translations, and because they prove that multiple versions of Old Testament writings circulated before canonization around 100 AD. While some of the scrolls are nearly identical to the traditional Hebrew text of the Old Testament, many contain significant variations.

The scrolls were well preserved in their dark, arid caves, but over the centuries most fell apart into fragments of various sizes.

Israel regards the scrolls a national treasure and keeps its share of them in a secure, climate-controlled, government-operated lab on the Israel Museum campus in Jerusalem. Pnina Shor, who oversees the antiquities authority's scroll collection, said the trove of fragments is so numerous—at least 10,000—that staff haven't finished counting them all. Israel has been criticized for limiting scholarly access, but is partnering with Google to upload images of scrolls online.


This Friday, May 10, 2013 photo shows the ten commandments written on one of the Dead Sea Scrolls in Jerusalem. AP

How most of the Dead Sea Scrolls ended up in Israeli hands is a tale that begins with a Bedouin shepherd who cast a stone inside a dark cave and heard the sound of something breaking. He found clay jars, some with rolled-up scrolls inside. After a return visit, he and his Bedouin companions had found a total of seven scrolls.

They sold three of them through an antiquities dealer to a Hebrew University professor, and four to William Kando's father, a Christian cobbler in Bethlehem who in turn sold them to the archbishop of the Assyrian Orthodox church.

On the eve of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, the archbishop smuggled the scrolls to the U.S. and advertised them in a Wall Street Journal classifieds ad. Yigael Yadin, Israeli war hero and later one of Israel's pre-eminent archaeologists, bought them through a front man.

For the next decade, archaeologists dug up thousands more scroll fragments in Dead Sea area caves and began to assemble them, like a jigsaw puzzle, in the Rockefeller Archaeological Museum in east Jerusalem, then ruled by Jordan. Bedouins also found fragments and sold them to Kando, who in turn sold most of them to the museum. Other fragments went to Jordanian and French state collections, and universities in Chicago, Montreal and Heidelberg, Germany.

In the 1967 Mideast war, Israel seized the Rockefeller collection, and sent soldiers to Bethlehem in the West Bank, 8 kilometers (5 miles) south of Jerusalem, where Kando was rumored to hold another important scroll. After a brief imprisonment, Kando revealed the parchment scroll in a shoe box under a floor tile in his bedroom, and sold it to Israeli authorities for $125,000, according to a written account by Yadin.

It is called the Temple Scroll, because it partly describes the construction of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. At 8.15 meters (26.7 feet) long, it is the longest ever found.

But Kando held much more than he surrendered to Israel. William, his son, said his father had fragments tucked away which he eventually transferred to Switzerland in the mid-1960s.

In 1993, just as scholars finally began publishing research of Israeli-held scrolls, and the world was abuzz with Dead Sea Scroll fever, Kando died, bequeathing his secret collection of fragments to his sons.

It was the perfect time to sell.

Norwegian businessman Martin Schoyen, a 73-year-old collector of biblical manuscripts, purchased his first Dead Sea Scroll fragment a year later, said Torleif Elgvin, a scholar with the Schoyen Collection. He eventually purchased a total of 115 fragments, many of them from Kando and some from an American scholar and a British scholar who kept them as souvenirs in the early days after their discovery.

A few years ago, Schoyen suffered financial losses in a business investment and could not afford to continue collecting scrolls, said Elgvin.

William Kando then took his business to the U.S., startling manuscript collectors who didn't know there was any scroll material still available for purchase.

"These were the hurdles I had to pass with collectors in America," said Lee Biondi, a California dealer who sold pieces on behalf of Kando.

Health & Fitness

Report: Nation's kids need to get more physical

WASHINGTON (AP)—Reading, writing, arithmetic—and PE?

The prestigious Institute of Medicine is recommending that schools provide opportunities for at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day for students and that PE become a core subject.

The report, released Thursday, says only about half of the nation's youngsters are getting at least an hour of vigorous or moderate-intensity physical activity every day.

Another concern, the report says, is that 44 percent of school administrators report slashing big chunks of time from physical education, arts and recess since the passage of the No Child Left Behind law in 2001 in order to boost classroom time for reading and math.

With childhood obesity on the rise—about 17 percent of children ages 2 through 19 are obese—and kids spending much of the day in the classroom, the chairman of the committee that wrote the report said schools are the best place to help shape up the nation's children.

"Schools for years have been responsible for various health programs such as nutrition, breakfast and lunch, immunizations, screenings," Harold W. Kohl III, a professor of epidemiology at the University of Texas School of Public Health, said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"Physical activity should be placed alongside those programs to make it a priority for us as a society," he said.

The report calls on the Education Department to recommend that PE be adopted as a core subject.

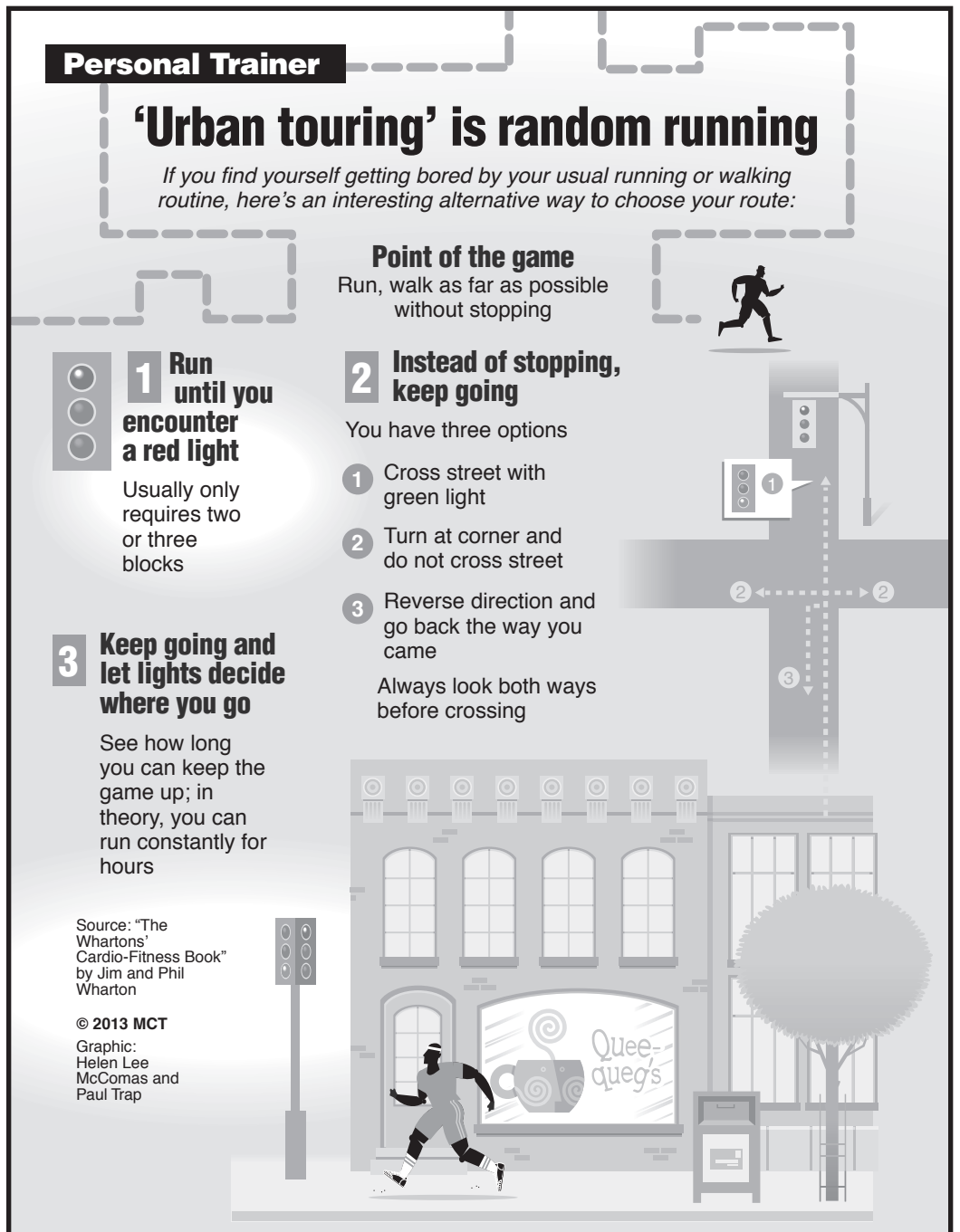
It says physical education in school is the "only sure opportunity" for youngsters to have access to activity that will help keep them healthy.

The majority of states, about 75 percent, mandate PE, according to the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. But most do not require a specific amount of time for PE in school, and more than half allow exemptions or substitutions, such as marching band, cheerleading and community sports.

Many kids also aren't going to gym class at school every single day. According to the CDC, only about 30 percent of students nationwide attend PE classes five days a week.

AP

Danielle Silverman and her son Ryan, of Newton, Mass., run the bases along with other mothers and children after the Mother's Day baseball game between the Boston Red Sox and the Toronto Blue Jays at Fenway Park in Boston, Sunday, May 12, 2013.


Personal Trainer
'Urban touring' is random running
If you find yourself getting bored by your usual running or walking routine, here's an interesting alternative way to choose your route:
Point of the game
Run, walk as far as possible without stopping
1 Run until you encounter a red light
Usually only requires two or three blocks
2 Instead of stopping, keep going
You have three options
1 Cross street with green light
2 Turn at corner and do not cross street
3 Reverse direction and go back the way you came
Always look both ways before crossing
3 Keep going and let lights decide where you go
See how long you can keep the game up; in theory, you can run constantly for hours
Source: "The Whartons' Cardio-Fitness Book" by Jim and Phil Wharton
© 2013 MCT
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul Trap
Quee-queg's

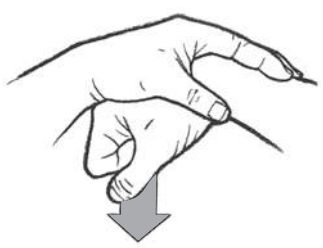
Responding to choking

The Heimlich maneuver can be used in emergency choking situations. Signs a person is choking include an inability to breathe or talk, coughing or gagging, wheezing and a bluish color to the lips or nails.

How to perform the Heimlich on an adult

1. Stand behind the person choking and reach around his or her waist

2. Place your fist, thumb side in, just above the person's navel and grasp your fist with the other hand



3. Thrust abruptly upward and inward to increase airway pressure and force the object out

4. Repeat the procedure until the object is dislodged

Call 911 if the person loses consciousness

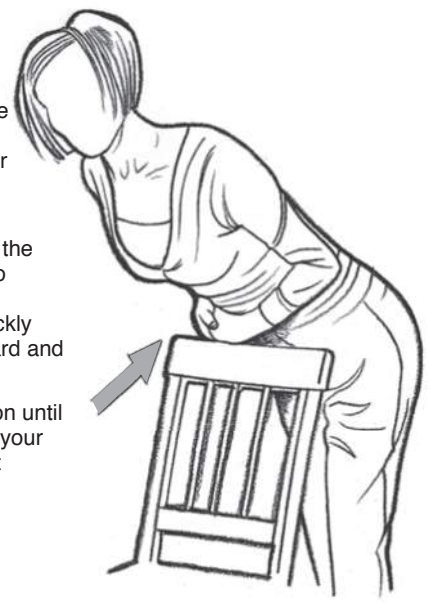
How to perform the Heimlich on yourself

If you are alone, you can perform the Heimlich on yourself

1. Make a fist above your navel while grasping it with your other hand

2. Quickly thrust upward to dislodge the object; you can also lean over a chair or countertop and quickly drive your fist upward and toward yourself

3. Repeat the motion until the object blocking your airway is forced out



Who is at risk

While young children are susceptible to choking, the rates of fatal choking for older adults are even higher.

2010 U.S. deaths by choking

Age group	Deaths	Rate per 100,000 people
Less than one	46	1.2
1-4 years	68	0.4
5-14	17	*
15-24	44	0.1
25-34	65	0.2
35-44	135	0.3
45-54	284	0.6
55-64	476	1.3
65-74	628	2.9
75-84	1,066	8.2
Over 85	1,440	26.2

*Data unavailable

© 2013 MCT
Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, National Safety Council
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

Life & Style

NYPD looks into Bynes' allegations

NEW YORK (AP)—Internal Affairs officers on Saturday were looking into allegations made by actress Amanda Bynes that New York Police Department officers sexually assaulted her when she was charged with heaving a marijuana bong out the window of her 36th-floor Manhattan apartment.

The 27-year-old former child star first alleged during her arraignment on Friday that police illegally entered her apartment after being called to her midtown building. But in a Twitter message believed to be from the troubled actress posted Saturday, Bynes alleged that her arresting officer also sexually assaulted her.

"As it would with any such allegation, regardless of its credibility, IAB is investigating it," said the NYPD's chief spokesman, Paul Browne, referring to the internal affairs bureau.

The Twitter handle used to make the sexual assault allegations Saturday does not appear to be verified by the social network- but Bynes' friend, former Hollywood publicist Jonathan Jaxson, said Saturday the tweet was made from Bynes' account. Twitter did not immediately return a request for comment.

In court on Friday, the former "Hairspray" star made no mention of the sexual assault allegations, though she did complain of illegal entry to her apartment. She's been charged with reckless endangerment, attempted tampering with evidence and unlawful possession of marijuana.

AP

In an image made from video, actress Amanda Bynes, center, wearing sweats and a blonde wig, shields her face as she is escorted after a Manhattan criminal court appearance on Friday May 24, 2013 in New York.

A law enforcement official who spoke to the Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because of an ongoing investigation said the building manager was with officers at Bynes' apartment when they arrived Thursday night. The official said officers were kept waiting approximately five minutes before she opened the door to them. The same official said the building manager told internal affair investigators nothing untoward happened.

Bynes was released by Chief New York County Judge Neil Ross on her own recognizance because, Ross said, he did not believe her to be a flight risk. But in releasing her, Ross also issued a stern warning to Bynes, telling her not to get rearrested or miss any court dates. She's due back in court on July 9.

Attempts to reach Bynes' arraignment lawyer were unsuccessful Saturday evening.

Bynes rose to fame starring in Nickelodeon's "All That" and has also starred in several films, including 2010's "Easy A." But she has been in the news more recently because of several scrapes with the law and bizarre public behavior.

Bynes was arrested Thursday night after building officials called police to complain she was rolling a joint and smoking pot in the lobby. The officers went to her apartment where they saw heavy smoke and a bong sitting on the kitchen counter. They said she tossed the bong out the window in front of them, prosecutors said Friday.

Cambodian film on Pol Pot rule wins Cannes prize

CANNES, France (AP)—An autobiographical French-Cambodian film, "The Missing Picture," which explores the bloody history of Pol Pot's dictatorship in late 1970s Cambodia, has won the "Un Certain Regard" prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

To rousing applause, director Rithy Panh collected the award at a ceremony Saturday night, expressing his gratitude to be able "to have the freedom to do the films I want to do."

Panh's film, based on his nightmarish memoir "The Elimination," documents his own family's experience under the heavy-handed Communist Party's Khmer Rouge, which resulted in the death of his parents and sisters.

The "Un Certain Regard" accolade, presented one day before the Palme d'Or and decided by a jury of cinema insiders, rewards works from up-and-coming filmmakers or those that transmit original messages and aesthetics.

The premise of the "missing picture" in the film is that because of censorship within Cambodia, no photo exists that documents the atrocities committed against Panh's his family and relatives during Pol Pot's four-year reign of terror from 1975 to 1979.

The tale is told using old documentary footage, or whatever footage remained from the time, which was mainly of propaganda by the dictatorship. To represent his deceased relatives, Panh used hundreds of carefully carved clay figures.

Palme d'Or race wide open at Cannes Film Festival

CANNES, France (AP)—After two weeks, 20 films and parade after parade down the red carpet, the Cannes Film Festival has not produced a clear-cut frontrunner for the Palme d'Or.

The prestigious award, given to the best film in competition, will be handed out Sunday night, decided upon by a jury headed by Steven Spielberg. And while this year's festival has boasted a cinematic feast, no single film is believed to have clearly set itself apart from the pack.

At least half a dozen films seem to have a realistic chance of winning Cannes' top prize, including the Coen brothers' 1960s folk tale "Inside Llewyn Davis," Paolo Sorrentino's rollicking Roman party "The Great Beauty," Asghar Farhadi's domestic drama "The Past," James Gray's 1920s Ellis Island melodrama "The Immigrant" and Abdellatif Kechiche's lesbian coming-of-age tale "Blue is the Warmest Color."

Consensus is always hard to come by in Cannes, but it does happen. Last year, Michael Haneke's "Amour" was the far-and-away favorite, and went on to win best foreign language film at the Oscars and earn the rare best picture nomination for a non-English film.

In 2011, Terrence Malick's cosmic rumination "The Tree of Life" too was obvious Palme material. But the year before, Cannes was fairly shocked when Tim Burton's jury picked the existential Thai film "Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives."

Palme d'Or oddsmaker Neil Young currently has Farhadi in the lead with 5-to-2 odds to win. The Iranian director, whose film is in French, was honored as the best foreign language film two years ago at the Academy Awards for another domestic drama, "A Separation." Having grown into an internationally renowned filmmaker, Farhadi could be in position for the Palme.

But some found his film, with its succession of reveals of past misdeeds, more a feat of mystery novel-like plotting than revealing drama. Certainly, its star, Berenice Bejo ("The Artist"), as a single-mother balancing an ex-husband and a new fiancé, is a possible best actress winner.

So, too, is the star of "Blue is the Warmest Color," Adele Exarchopoulos. The 19-year-old actress was one of the breakout stars of the festival in the three-hour French film.

On this holiday, remember the soldiers who inspired it

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR READERS: To all of you who are observing Memorial Day with me, please join in reflecting for a moment on those members of our armed forces who have sacrificed their lives in service to our country. Bless their spirits, and may they live forever in our hearts.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My wife revealed on my 60th birthday two days ago that she has $10,000 in cash hidden in our house. She said she secretly took the money from my pay and consulting checks and hid it when we were going through a bad period in our marriage 10 years ago and nearly divorced.

I told her there is no rational reason for keeping that much money in the house. She says she's keeping it for an emergency, and it makes her feel secure. When I said we should invest the money, she got upset.

I can't understand why anyone would want to keep that much cash in the house. What's your view?

LIVING IN "FORT KNOX"

DEAR LIVING: To understand your wife's motivation, look back 10 years to the time when she may have felt she'd need the money to get a new start. That's the "emergency" the money was salted away for.

I agree that $10,000 is a lot of cash to keep in the house. Most of it should be in the bank, with only a portion in the house so it will be immediately available if needed. Unless your wife feels your marriage is still shaky, I can't see why she wouldn't compromise. Could that be her reason?

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a 15-year-old girl with a good life. There are bumps in the road, but they happen and I accept that. The thing I worry about is my me-maw. She's getting very old and thinks she will be dying soon.

I try to tell her not to think that way. I really love her and don't know what I would do if she were gone so soon. I go to her house every summer, winter, and anytime we're out of school.

I need to get a job this summer, and I don't know how to tell my me-maw I won't be coming to visit without hurting her feelings. She is one of those people who don't show their emotions like most of my family, so I know when she sometimes says it's OK it really isn't. Please tell me what to say to her.

CONCERNED GRANDCHILD IN ALABAMA

DEAR CONCERNED GRANDCHILD: You are sweet, thoughtful and sensitive, but you are also growing up. Your grandmother may be talking the way she is because of her age—or she may be concerned about her health and trying to prepare you.

It's time to ask your parents what is going on with her. If she's really sick, you may want to postpone getting that job until next summer. If she's not, you should explain to Me-maw that you love her and treasure the special times you have been able to spend with her—but as much as you'd like to, you will not be able to do it this summer because you need to get a job. It's part of becoming an adult and will help you to learn responsibility and independence. As a loving grandparent, she knows how important that is for you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a hairdresser, and one of my clients who considers herself to be my good friend handed me a birthday card. Stuck on the envelope was a sticky note with my name written on it, covering whatever name was underneath. On the card, under "Happy Birthday" was her signature—again on a sticky note. She said she thought the card was funny and too good not to use again, so I should pass it on, too.

I am hurt and insulted. Am I taking this too seriously? I want my OWN birthday card!—SHOCKED IN FLORIDA

DEAR SHOCKED: Your client was trying to be thoughtful, or she wouldn't have remembered it was your birthday. Be grateful for what you got. She didn't mean to insult you—in a weird way she was trying to do you a favor.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

LITTLE JOYS OF LIFE
1. Reading a NEW Comic Book.
2. Petting a Happy DOG.
3. Getting a LETTER in the Mail.
4. Eating the MARSHMALLOWS in Hot CHOCOLATE.
5. SMILING WHEN a BIG Kid calls you a Nasty NAME... and THEN PUNCHING His TEETH straight DOWN His UGLY NECK.
YOU REALLY PULL THE OL' HEARTSTRINGS
SOME OF THESE I HAVEN'T PERSONALLY EXPERIENCED, SAD TO SAY.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

LIFE IS FULL OF REGRETS, GARFIELD
HOW TRUE
DO YOU HAVE ANY REGRETS?
YES, I DO
MAYBE STEALING FOOD? KICKING ODIE OFF THE TABLE? SQUASHING SPIDERS?
I NEVER LEARNED TO TYPE
JIM DAVIS 5-27

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

PERCY AND I WANTED TO KNOW IF WE COULD HAVE A SLEEPOVER.
SURE!
AWESOME! CALL YOUR MOM AND SEE IF SHE'S COOL WITH IT!
THIS'LL BE SO COOL! WE CAN MAKE POPCORN AND STAY UP LATE AND PLAY VIDEO GAMES AND MAYBE WATCH A MONSTER MOVIE AND HAVE A SAUSAGE AND JALAPENO PIZZA...
PUMP THE BRAKES, POPS.
YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU'RE RIGHT. JALAPENO PIZZA GIVES ME NIGHTMARES.
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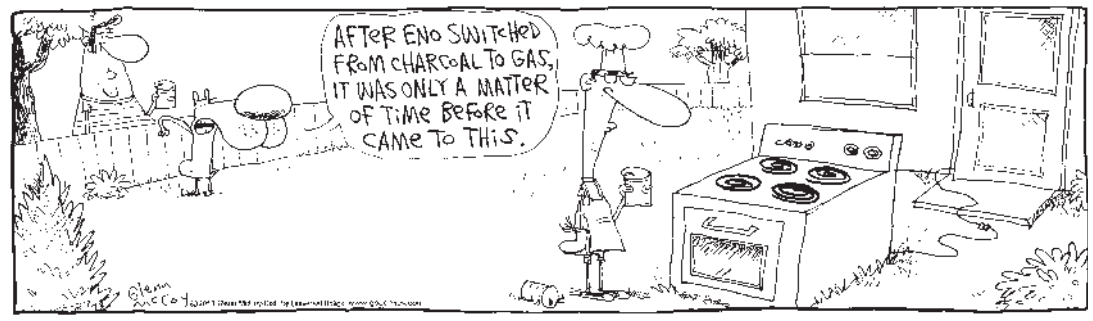
www.GoComics.com

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

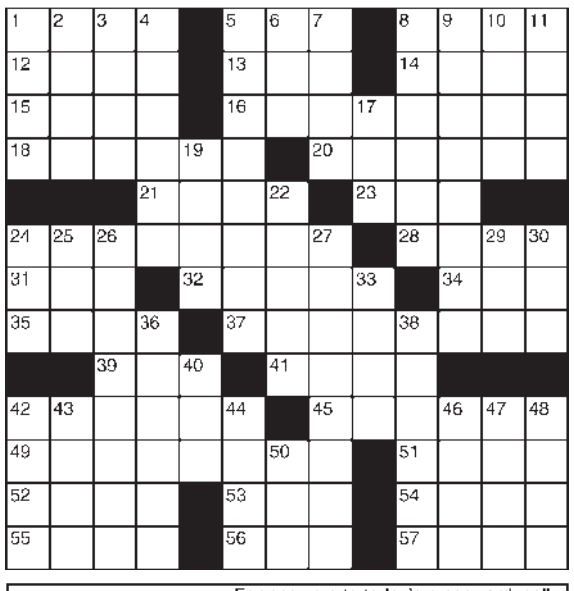
ACROSS
1 Impale
5 Father
8 Waller or Domino
12 Operatic solo
13 Playwright Levin
14 "Step —!" ("Hurry!")
15 Kindly bloke
16 Make a mock-up of
18 I before E except —
20 Draw forth
21 Doesn't feel good
23 Overly
24 Kiss
28 Winter forecast
31 Debt notice
32 Detroit team
34 Payable
35 Calm before the storm
37 Vary a tone
39 Winning hand's winnings
41 Cupola
42 Notlikethis
45 Random drawing?
49 Count
51 Require
52 Right angles
53 Knight's title
54 On the rocks
55 Encounter
56 Skirt terminus
57 "Finding Nemo" character

DOWN
1 Long story
2 Not kosher
3 "It — Necessarily So"
4 Flat-bottomed boat
5 Deny
6 "Exodus" hero
7 Knighted woman
8 Page numbers
9 Big snake
10 South American monkey
11 Undo a dele
17 Last (Abbr.)
19 Small stream
22 Remained upright
24 Lubricant
25 Old French coin
26 Guilty
27 Germ layer
29 Result of three strikes
30 Tiny
33 Wrestling style
36 Noisy swarmer
38 Nikita's successor
40 — Aviv
42 Branch
43 Wan
44 Morse morsel
46 Retro art style
47 Lecherous look
48 Vortex
50 Dead heat

Solution time: 27 mins.

M	A	V		B	E	E	R		B	I	A	S
A	C	E		E	T	N	A		A	R	C	H
T	H	R	A	S	H	E	D		L	A	T	E
H	E	A	R	T	Y		A	W	L			
			S	O	L		M	A	S	H	E	D
T	H	R	O	W		V	E	X		A	L	I
R	F	I	N		M	O	S		M	I	S	S
O	R	B		P	A	W		C	A	R	E	T
D	A	S	H	E	D		O	A	R			
			U	R	I		I	C	I	C	L	E
E	A	R	N		S	P	L	A	S	H	E	D
B	L	O	C		O	R	E	O		A	N	I
B	E	T	H		N	O	D	S		D	D	T

Friday's answer 5-27



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chris Colfer, 23; Jack McBrayer, 40; Paul Bettany, 42; Louis Gossett Jr., 77

Happy Birthday: Look at the possibilities and what you can accomplish this year. Strive for perfection in whatever you pursue. It's the little extras you contribute that will bring you satisfaction and impress others. Keep close tabs on your weight and physical wellness. Aim to be your best. Favorable change can be yours but cap the amount you spend. Your numbers are 6, 14, 21, 23, 30, 36, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let a work problem get you down or cause you to make an impulsive decision. Learn from past mistakes. Communicating and sharing innovative ideas will counter anyone who opposes you. Love and romance are on the rise. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Your vast interests will lead to greater popularity. Short trips or conversations will disclose information that will enable you to make a decision regarding an emotional matter. Your intuition won't let you down. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't take on or promise more than you can handle. A financial problem can be expected if you make an impulsive investment or purchase. Lending, borrowing or banking on something that may or may not happen should be avoided. Patience is required. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Rumors and gossip will spread if you share sensitive information. Put more effort into creative hobbies or a friendship you want to develop. Emotional ups and downs must be curbed to avoid making yourself appear unpredictable. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Getting together with friends or someone who shares your interests and sparks your imagination will encourage you to follow a dream or get involved in something that will enhance your life. Favors will be granted. Romance is highlighted, but don't overspend to impress someone. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You may want to move things along quickly, but don't push someone who is hesitant. A problem with a colleague or someone you feel obliged to is likely to develop due to a misunderstanding or being given false information. Precision will be necessary. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): An unexpected emotional reaction is likely to develop. Don't let changes at home slow you down. Take on new challenges and set your sights on picking up information that will help you further your goals. New interests will defer boredom. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take a close look at your financial situation. You are best to cut corners where you can and to reconsider where you should invest your money. A change regarding a settlement or contract will bring about good fortune. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Pay attention to important relationships, especially the people you share lots of history with. Altering the way you live or do things at home will be a plus and will also help you shape your personal direction. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Plan some quiet time that will allow you to go over your plans and map out what it is you are trying to accomplish. Don't be afraid to take an unusual approach to something that interests you. Physical activity will do you good. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Put a little extra into presentation. Physical, mental and emotional connections will help you realize the types of changes you want to make in your life. Love and romance are looking good, and plans to spend time with someone special should be made. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Someone will slow you down or hold you back. You have to separate personal and professional issues if you want to be productive. Concentrate on creative ideas and dedicate your time to achieving your goals. Avoid excess. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are determined, dedicated and goal-oriented. You are outgoing and charismatic.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9			4		1	2		8
		2	6			3		
6	5			2			9	
7							4	2
		9	5	4	2	1		
2	1							5
	9			1			3	7
		7			5	4		
1		8	7		9			6

Difficulty Level ★ 5/27

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

6	5	7	3	1	2	9	8	4
2	9	1	8	6	4	5	7	3
3	8	4	5	7	9	2	6	1
7	4	2	1	8	3	6	5	9
5	3	6	9	2	7	1	4	8
9	1	8	4	5	6	7	3	2
8	2	5	7	4	1	3	9	6
4	6	3	2	9	5	8	1	7
1	7	9	6	3	8	4	2	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/24

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ZIPPERS **Solution: 4 letters**

R	D	A	J	T	R	I	K	S	T	R	A	C	K	M
E	E	L	E	N	I	C	K	E	L	L	A	T	E	M
T	C	I	A	L	U	B	L	P	U	L	L	S	T	A
A	O	G	N	T	D	L	R	M	G	L	H	L	A	T
I	R	N	S	F	A	N	I	E	G	I	A	I	R	E
N	A	S	J	W	O	N	A	A	A	N	N	D	A	R
E	T	R	A	T	U	R	R	H	G	K	D	E	P	I
R	E	E	C	M	T	M	C	N	E	R	B	R	E	A
B	L	N	K	N	E	M	I	E	E	S	A	Z	S	L
O	E	E	E	N	I	D	O	S	M	R	G	A	I	T
X	M	T	T	S	N	O	S	T	T	E	K	C	O	P
S	E	S	A	I	S	E	J	O	T	V	N	P	P	O
I	N	A	B	O	S	A	V	P	P	O	S	T	E	U
Z	T	F	L	O	C	K	R	O	W	C	B	E	N	C
E	S	A	C	F	E	I	R	B	M	T	E	E	T	H

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Aligns, Aluminum, Binding, Bottom, Brass, Break, Briefcase, Coat, Covers, Decorate, Dresses, Elements, Fastener, Garment, Handbag, Handle, Jacket, Jeans, Join, Link, Lock, Luggage, Material, Mesh, Metal, Move, Nickel, Open, Pocket, Pouch, Pull, Reinforcement, Retainer Box, Row, Separate, Size, Skirt, Slider, Stop, Stuck, Teeth, Tent, Tops, Track, Wallet, Zip

Last Friday's Answer: Good Ol' Days

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Spurs take 3-0 lead, beat Grizzlies 104-93 in OT

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Tim Duncan is doing his very best to get the San Antonio Spurs back to the NBA Finals one more time.

The 37-year-old center took control in overtime for a second straight game, this time scoring the first five points as the Spurs rallied from an 18-point deficit to beat the Memphis Grizzlies 104-93 Saturday night.

That put them a win away from their first finals since 2007.

"He was huge for us the other night in overtime and got it done for us, and he did it again tonight," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said of the two-time MVP. "That's why he is considered as great as he has for the last 17 years. He's been unbelievable. He feels a responsibility to carry us in those kinds of times, and he did it again tonight."

Duncan wants to get back to the finals after being on the verge last year. He said he was more aggressive in overtime after being a bit tentative with his shot in regulation.

"I'm not worried about how old I am or whatever, whatever it may be," Duncan said. "I'm very focused on having another opportunity to make it to a championship and try to win, that's all."

The Spurs grabbed a 3-0 lead in the Western Conference finals and now have won five straight this postseason. With the memory of blowing a 2-0 lead a year ago in the West finals to Oklahoma City, when they lost the next four, the Spurs shook off their sloppy play early and pushed the young Grizzlies to the edge of elimination in the first West final played in Memphis.

The Grizzlies knocked off the Clippers after trailing 0-2 and upset the West's top seed in Oklahoma City in the semifinals. Now their task is even tougher with Game 4 in Memphis on Monday night.

"We've been fortunate to get this far, and we've got to play better if we want to continue," Grizzlies coach Lionel Hollins said.

Memphis set up for the final shot to win in regulation, but guard Mike Conley missed on a runner at the buzzer. He said he went a little too deep in the paint on the shot.

No NBA team has lost a series when leading 3-0.

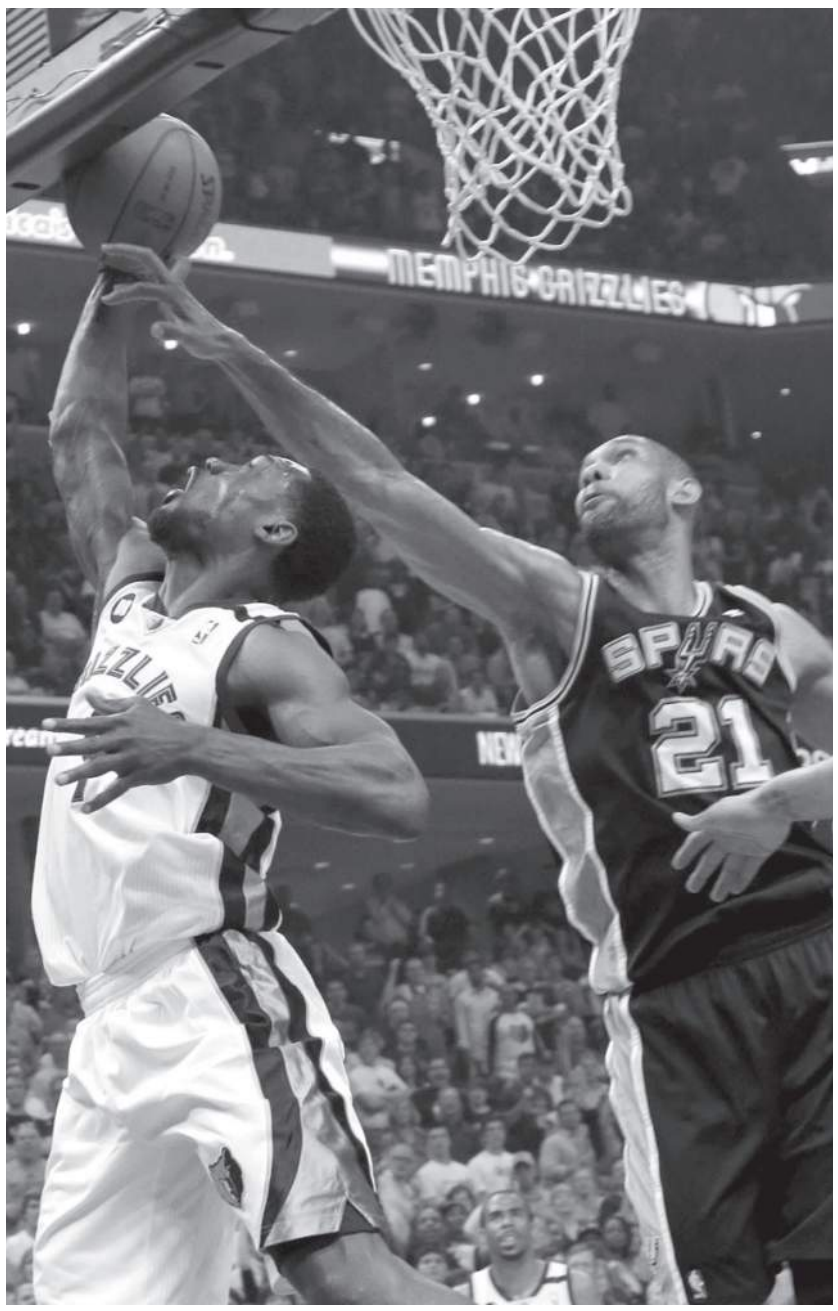
"It is frustrating, but you know it gives us hope at the same time knowing that we can fight our way back," Conley said. "And we have had chances to win each of these games. This was a tough one to swallow, but it was a good learning lesson. There's no group of guys I'd rather be with down 3-0 to try to fight back in it."

San Antonio, which didn't lead this game until the opening minute of the fourth quarter, can wrap up the series Monday in Memphis and get back to the finals for a shot at their fifth title as a franchise.

"One of the best wins I've witnessed being a Spur," Spurs guard Manu Ginobili said.

The Spurs hit eight of their 10 shots in overtime, with Duncan scoring seven of his 24 points. He also had 10 rebounds. Tony Parker had five of his 26 in overtime, and even Tiago Splitter, playing with four fouls, scored six in the extra five minutes to finish with 11.

"For whatever reason, we didn't panic," Parker said of a start that included four turnovers in the first quarter. "We knew they wanted to come with a lot of energy in the first half. We played our game and came back."



AP

Memphis Grizzlies guard Tony Allen (9) drives to the basket as San Antonio Spurs forward Tim Duncan (21) reaches for the ball during the first half of Game 3 in their NBA basketball Western Conference finals playoff series, Saturday, May 25, 2013, in Memphis, Tenn.

Mike Conley led Memphis with 20 points. Marc Gasol had 16 points and 14 rebounds, Zach Randolph added 14 and 15, and Quincy Pondexter had 15 points. But the Grizzlies, who thrived at the free throw line in knocking off Oklahoma City, got there only 18 times and made only 10.

The Grizzlies last led 85-84 with 1:04 left in regulation on a 15-footer by Gasol. After that, they managed only to tie it up twice, the last on a layup by Randolph with 4:28 left in overtime. Duncan scored and knocked down the free throw with 4:10 remaining to put the Spurs ahead to stay.

The Spurs dominated the Grizzlies in the paint, outscoring Memphis 58-42 to offset their 17 turnovers, which the Grizzlies turned into 25 points. After the Grizzlies outscored San Antonio in the first quarter, the Spurs outscored them in each of the final three periods and overtime, where they had an 18-7 edge to put away the win.

Memphis, which had a lead for only 90 seconds in San Antonio, opened up with its trademark grit and grind defense, forcing eight turnovers in the first quarter to grab an 18-point lead. The Spurs quit turning the ball over and whittled away that lead to set up a doozy of a fourth quarter where the teams swapped the lead 11 times with 10 ties—all in the final 17 minutes.

"They went small real quick, and we couldn't contain the pick and roll ...," Gasol said. "It's painful to watch."

With neither team leading by more than two in the final 8 minutes of regulation, fans stayed on their feet, holding their "Believe Memphis" towels trying to will the Grizzlies to yet another win.

Ginobili scored seven of his 19 points in the quarter, and he put the Spurs back up first with a layup with 1:19 left and then a pair of free throws with 54.5 seconds remaining. But Ginobili also picked up his fourth foul, giving Tony Allen a chance to split free throws and tie it up at 86 for the ninth time. Ginobili then missed a 3-pointer with 20.9 seconds left with Allen getting the rebound.

With the Spurs taking control in their second straight overtime win in this series, they pushed their lead to as much as 11 down the stretch and sent fans heading toward the exits.

The Grizzlies lost for the first time at home this postseason and just their second since Feb. 8. Conley, who led the NBA in total steals this season, set the tone with a steal on the Spurs' first possession.

Parker, who set a career high in the postseason with 18 assists in Game 2, finished with seven turnovers. San Antonio turned it over eight times in the first, with the Grizzlies stealing seven of those, prompting Popovich to pull his starters and go with five fresh Spurs.

"It was one of the worst starts I've ever seen," Popovich said.

East title series shifts to Indy, knotted at 1-1

MIAMI (AP)—Chris Bosh stood up in a relatively quiet Miami Heat locker room and offered a concise, blunt and accurate assessment of where things stand so far in the Eastern Conference finals.

"Our backs are against the wall," Bosh said.

He's absolutely correct. Advantage, Indiana.

Over the first two games of these Eastern Conference finals in Miami, it was Indiana that primarily had control, never allowing the reigning NBA champions to hold anything more than a five-point lead. The Pacers got a split for their efforts, and now head home to Indianapolis for Game 3 on Sunday night, surely aware that they've already taken a huge step toward pulling off what would undoubtedly be called a huge upset.

"It's even. It's 1-1," Pacers star Paul George said. "They have the possibility of a split as well and taking home-court advantage back. So it's even. We don't feel like they've got the upper hand on us. We don't feel like we've got the upper hand on them."

If they were inclined, the Pacers could be justified to feel otherwise.

Other than letting Game 1 slip away when LeBron James was allowed basically unfettered access to the rim for an easy score on the final play of overtime, Indiana couldn't have asked for more out of its few days in South Florida. The Pacers handed the Heat what became their fourth loss in 50 games. They grabbed home-court advantage. They had the Heat juggling rotations more than at any point so far in this postseason.

Maybe most importantly, they get a sports rarity: A do-over.

A year ago, the Pacers split two games in Miami, took the series back to Indianapolis and couldn't ultimately finish the job. Losing to the Heat last season has haunted the Pacers to some extent ever since, so perhaps it's fitting that a year later—albeit one round deeper into the playoffs—the same scenario has presented itself again.

"This whole team is showing great desire and great heart and great belief," Pacers coach Frank Vogel said. "And that's the only way to put what these guys are doing right now, is they believe we can win this series, and they're giving it all their might. All their might. And they're playing with confidence and they are rising to the challenge. I'm very, very proud of them. We still have a lot of work to do. We all understand that."

So far in this postseason, work has seemed easy for the Pacers in Indianapolis.

Indiana is 6-0 at home in these playoffs, winning by an average of 14 points. The Heat are 4-0 on the road this postseason, also winning those games by an average of 14 points.

Welcome to the "something's got to give" scenario.

"We just stay even-keeled," James said. "We don't get too high, we don't get too low in the series. We know we're going to go into a hostile environment against a very good team, and we look forward to the challenge."

It wouldn't be surprising if James spent the 45 hours spanning the end of Game 2 to the start of Game 3 replaying two passes in his mind, over and over again.

With the Heat down two, James twice tried to get passes to Ray Allen in the final 45 seconds. Both were broken up by West for turnovers that doomed Miami's comeback hopes, and it was just the second time in James' last 442 games where he was charged with two turnovers in the final minute of a fourth quarter, according to STATS.

Indiana's defensive brilliance in this series goes beyond making passing lanes disappear late in Game 2.

The Pacers defended the 3-pointer better than anyone in the league during the regular season, while Miami had the second-best percentage from beyond the arc. That matchup has been all Indiana so far, with the Pacers keeping the Heat to a 30 percent clip. Ray Allen, the most prolific 3-point shooter in league history, is 1 for 6 from that distance. Shane Battier is 0 for 6. Norris Cole, who came up big in the Chicago series, is 1 for 4.

"We're a growing and evolving team," Pacers center Roy Hibbert said. "I think our defense really won us the game for us. ... A lot of times teams just start buckling, and we've been through the wringer before. We're young guys, but we know what we're doing."

Hibbert—a matchup nightmare for Miami—has made 19 of 33 shots in the series, averaging 24 points and 9.5 rebounds. George has scored 49 points in the two games. West has scored 39, got to the foul line more than anyone else in the first two games, and made the two huge defensive plays late in Game 2 while being asked to guard a sharpshooter like Allen, no less.

"Take nothing away from their `Big Three' and what they have going," George said, referring to James, Dwyane Wade and Bosh. "But we'll take a `Big Five' any day. And that's what we have. We have a `Big Five' where we have guys who can make plays and we don't lean on one guy. It's a team contribution and that's how we play the game."

James has scored 66 points in the series, one less than what Wade and Bosh have combined for against the Pacers. He also leads the Heat in free throws made and attempted, offensive rebounds, total rebounds and assists in the series.

Even the Pacers' George Hill compared James to God after Game 2. And it was James who, with a brilliant effort in Indianapolis last year, found a way to save Miami in that series. He sounds eager to try and make it happen again.

"I am very disappointed in my judgment and my plays down the stretch," James said. "But I'll make up for them."

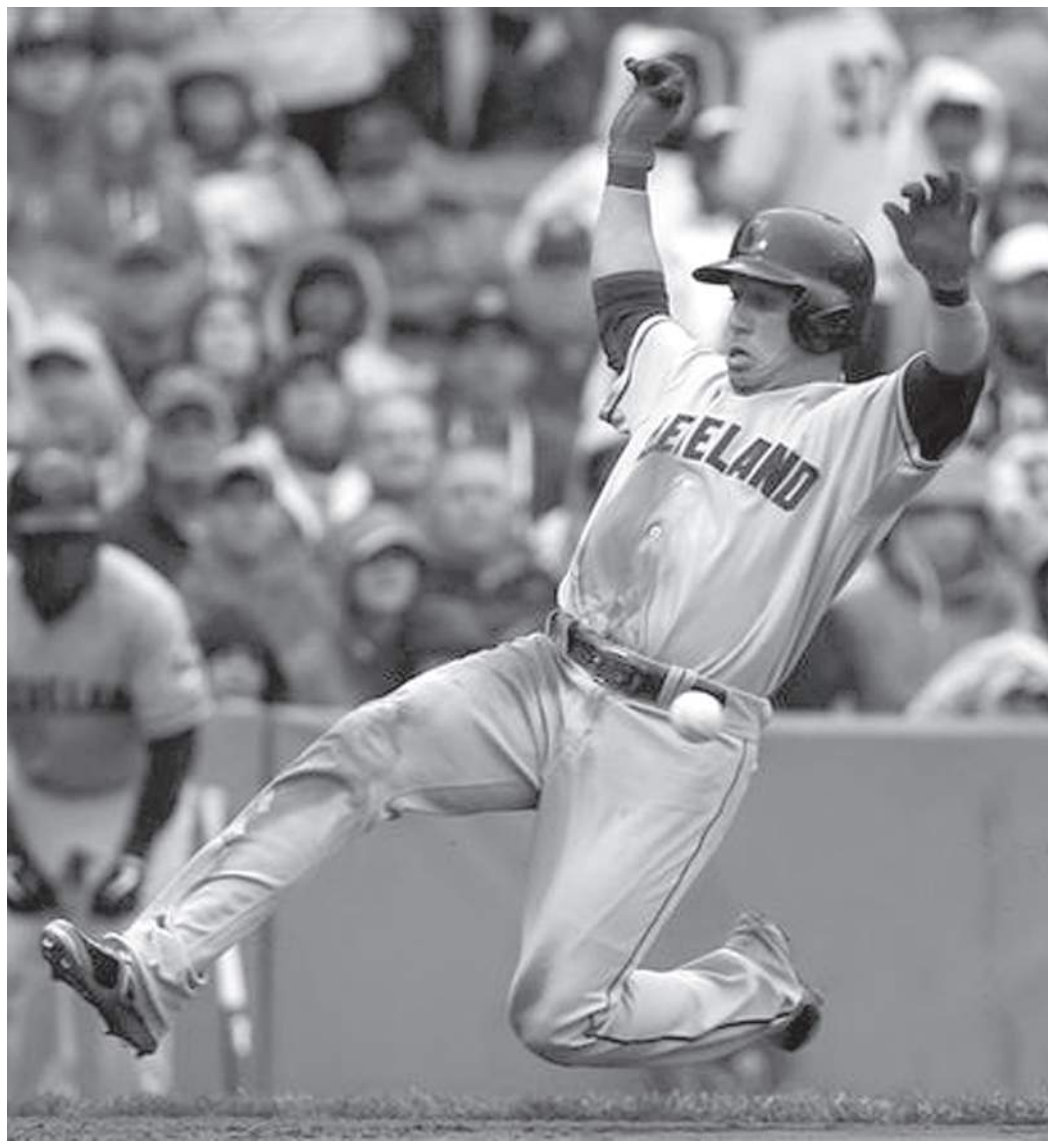
Red Sox rally for 4 in 8th to beat Indians, 7-4

BOSTON (AP) — Pinch-hitter Mike Carp drove in the tying run with an eighth-inning double and then scored on a double by Dustin Pedroia as the Boston Red Sox rallied for a 7-4 victory over the Cleveland Indians in the American League on Saturday.

The Red Sox scored four times off reliever Vinnie Pestano (1-1), who took over with Cleveland leading 4-3 in the eighth.

Junichi Tazawa (4-2) struck out two in a hitless eighth and Andrew Bailey got three outs for his sixth save in seven chances.

Boston starter Jon Lester struck out a season-high eight in seven innings.



AP

Cleveland Indians' Asdrubal Cabrera slides into home as the ball passes him on the way to being tagged out during the third inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park in Boston Saturday, May 25, 2013.

Orioles 6, Blue Jays 5

In Toronto, Danny Valencia hit a two-run homer and Adam Jones added a solo shot to help the Orioles beat R.A. Dickey and the Blue Jays.

The Orioles won for the fourth time in five games following a season-long, six-game losing streak.

Valencia connected off Dickey (4-6) with a second-deck drive in the third inning. Jones chased last year's National League Cy Young Award winner with an even longer drive in the seventh, his ninth of the year and third in three games.

The Orioles lead the majors with 68 home runs this season, including nine in the past three games.

Freddy Garcia (1-2) allowed three runs and nine hits in five innings to win for the first time since Aug. 15, 2012, when he beat Texas while pitching for the New York Yankees.

Angels 7, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Missouri, Josh Hamilton and Hank Conger homered to back Billy Buckner's first major league win since 2009 as the Angels beat the Royals for their seventh straight victory.

The resurgent Angels have outscored opponents 54-18 during their longest winning streak of the season.

The slumping Royals have lost 15 of 19, including seven straight at home. They have scored three runs or fewer in 12 of those defeats to drop a season-low four games below .500 at 21-25.

Conger's shot leading off the sixth inning was the first hit off Jeremy Guthrie (5-3), who dropped his third consecutive outing after going a Royals-record 18 starts in a row without a loss.

Buckner (1-0), who hadn't pitched in the majors since 2010, limited the Royals to two hits over five innings.

Yankees 4, Rays 3, 11 innings

St. Petersburg, Florida, Lyle Overbay homered with two outs in the 11th inning as the Yankees rallied late to beat the Rays.

Overbay drilled a 1-0 pitch from Josh Lueke (0-2) into the right field seats to give New York the lead.

Ivan Nova (2-1), who made his first relief appearance after returning from a triceps injury, struck out James Loney and got an inning-ending grounder from Matt Joyce with the bases loaded in the 10th.

Mariano Rivera pitched a perfect 11th inning for his 18th straight save to start the season.

The Yankees scored twice in the ninth against struggling Tampa Bay closer Fernando Rodney to pull even at 3.

Twins 3, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Joe Mauer homered and had three hits, helping the Twins end a 10-game losing streak with a victory over the Tigers.

The Twins scored all three runs in the first inning. P.J. Walters (1-0) went six innings, allowing two runs and eight hits.

Four relievers finished, with Glen Perkins pitching the ninth for his ninth save in 10 chances.

Detroit's Doug Fister (5-2) allowed three runs and eight hits in seven innings.

Athletics 11, Astros 5

In Houston, Josh Donaldson homered and had four hits to power Oakland past Houston.

Chris Young added three hits and drove in two runs as the Athletics pounded out a season-high 18 hits. Every Oakland batter drove in at least one run. Donaldson and Brandon Moss hit back-to-back homers for the A's, who improved to 8-0 this season against the Astros.

A.J. Griffin (5-3) allowed four runs and five hits with seven strikeouts in 5 2-3 innings. He gave up three homers.

Jason Castro and Matt Dominguez each had two home runs for the Astros.

Rangers 5, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Nelson Cruz hit his 12th homer of the season and David Murphy drove in three runs as Texas handed Seattle its eighth straight loss.

Derek Holland (4-2) went 6 2-3 innings, striking out a season-high 10, allowing no earned runs and winning for the first time since May 8 after a pair of no decisions.

Murphy's two-out double in the second gave Texas a 3-0 lead and Cruz added his solo homer—also with two outs—in the fifth inning.

Felix Hernandez (5-4) took the loss.

Giants 6, Rockies 5

In San Francisco, Angel Pagan became the first San Francisco player to end a game with an inside-the-park homer, connecting with a runner aboard in the bottom of the 10th inning to give the Giants a victory over the Colorado Rockies.

Troy Tulowitzki homered leading off the 10th to put the Rockies ahead 5-4, but Colorado closer Rafael Betancourt (1-2) walked Brandon Crawford to open the bottom half.

Guillermo Quiroz sacrificed before Pagan sent a long drive that hit the base of the oddly angled wall in right-center and bounced high over the head of right fielder Michael Cuddyer. The speedy Pagan raced around the bases and slid home ahead of the relay.

The last major leaguer to hit an inside-the-park home run that ended a game was Rey Sanchez for Tampa Bay on June 11, 2004—also in a 10-inning victory over Colorado.

It was Betancourt's first blown save in 11 chances this season.

Carlos Gonzalez homered among his three hits and drove in two runs for the Rockies.

Buster Posey had three hits and scored twice for the Giants, who ended a four-game losing streak against the Rockies. Sergio Romo (3-2) gave up Tulowitzki's 10th homer.

Reds 5, Cubs 2

In Cincinnati, Todd Frazier drove in a pair of runs with a sacrifice fly and a single as Cincinnati used another big inning to beat Chicago for its fifth straight victory.

The Reds have won 13 of 16, surging to a season-high 13 games over .500 at 31-18. It's their best start since 1995, when they reached the National League championship series.

Cincinnati scored four times in the sixth off Travis Wood (4-3), extending its domination of the NL Central's last-place team. Chicago has lost a season-high six consecutive games.

Homer Bailey (3-3) gave up a pair of runs in six innings. Aroldis Chapman had a perfect ninth for his 12th save in 14 chances.

Pirates 5, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Pedro Alvarez hit two home runs, Andrew McCutchen also went deep and Jeff Locke pitched six shutout innings to lead Pittsburgh over Milwaukee.

Neil Walker added a solo home run for the Pirates, who won for a second time in Milwaukee this season.

Locke (5-1) gave up three hits and struck out a season-high seven to win his fifth straight decision. He hasn't allowed a run in his last two starts.

Mike Fiers (1-3) gave up four runs and five hits in four innings. Carlos Gomez homered twice for Milwaukee, which hasn't won back-to-back games since April 29-30 at home against Pittsburgh.

Braves 7, Mets 5, 10 innings, completion of suspended game Braves 6, Mets 0

In New York, light-hitting pitcher Mike Minor homered for his first two RBIs in the majors and struck out 10 as Atlanta posted its second win in a matter of hours, beating New York for its eighth straight victory.

Earlier, Dan Uggla hit a go-ahead single in the 10th inning and the Braves won in the resumption of a game suspended because of rain Friday night after eight innings with the score tied at 5.

Minor (6-2) then pitched 7 1-3 innings of three-hit ball on a blustery night, sending the Mets to their fifth loss in a row.

Minor singled in the third and hit a two-run drive inside the left field foul pole off Dillon Gee (2-6) that broke a scoreless tie in the fifth and touched off a five-run burst.

The Braves got six straight hits in their surge, including doubles by Justin Upton and Andrelton Simmons.

The teams took 42 minutes to complete the resumption, and there was a 36-minute break between games.

Freddie Freeman, who homered Friday night before the rain came, drew a leadoff walk from Brandon Lyon (1-2) in the 10th and took third on a double by Brian McCann. Uggla followed with his tiebreaking single and B.J. Upton later squeezed home pinch-runner Jordan Schafer.

Phillies 5, Nationals 3

In Washington, Michael Young scored the go-ahead run from first base on a single in the eighth inning, and Domonic Brown homered and hit an RBI double as Philadelphia beat Washington.

Young walked and came home on Delmon Young's single to the right-field corner, stretching his hand across the plate to beat Bryce Harper's throw and break a 3-all tie. Pinch-runner Michael Martinez then scored on Brown's double to right-center.

The runs came off Drew Storen (0-1), the latest failure for the Nationals' bullpen.

Chad Durbin (1-0) got two outs for the win. Jeremy Horst pitched out of an eighth-inning jam and Jonathan Papelbon earned his ninth save.

Brown and Erik Kratz homered on consecutive pitches in the second.

Dodgers 5, Cardinals 3

In Los Angeles, Adrian Gonzalez homered and drove in three runs and Mark Ellis lined a go-ahead double in the sixth inning as Los Angeles ended St. Louis' three-game winning streak.

The last-place Dodgers, who had lost five of seven, blew a two-run lead before Ellis' two-out hit off Seth Maness (3-1) scored Carl Crawford from first base to make it 4-3.

Paco Rodriguez (1-2) earned his first major league victory, getting three outs on 10 pitches. Brandon League worked the ninth to earn his 10th save in 12 chances.

Padres 10, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Everth Cabrera matched his career high with four RBIs, two coming on his second home run in two nights, as San Diego beat Arizona.

Cabrera fell a triple shy of the cycle, with a single in the first and a two-run double to cap the Padres' five-run fourth.

Andrew Cashner (4-2) got the victory, giving up four runs on nine hits in six-plus innings. He also singled in a run, his first RBI of the season.

Wade Miley (3-4) got the loss. Arizona's Eric Chavez drove in three runs with a two-run homer and sacrifice fly.

White Sox 2, Marlins 1

In Chicago, Conor Gillaspie hit a run-scoring single in the ninth inning to score Dewayne Wise, lifting the White Sox to a win over Miami.

Derek Dietrich homered in the top of the ninth to spoil Jake Peavy's shutout bid, but in the bottom half, Gillaspie drove in Wise—who had come in as a defensive replacement—to give the White Sox their eighth win in 11 games.

Peavy (6-2) struck out five and allowed six hits in the complete-game effort, his longest outing of the season.

Ryan Webb (1-3) gave up Gillaspie's single to take the loss for Miami, which dropped its fourth straight and 11th in the last 13 games.

Kuchar still leads at Colonial after long Saturday

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—Matt Kuchar finished a long Saturday at Colonial exhausted and still a stroke in front.

"This morning feels like a day ago," Kuchar said. "It's hard to believe it's the same day."

After making a 12-foot birdie putt at the par-3 16th hole, the same place where his day began at 7:13 a.m. to finish the suspended second round, Kuchar had two nifty par-savers to finish a 1-under 69 in the third round. He was at 11-under 199, one ahead of Graham DeLaet, Boo Weekley, Chris Stroud and Matt Every.

When the second round was suspended Friday night because of an approaching storm, Kuchar had just hit his tee shot at the par-3 16th. He resumed there early Saturday with a two-putt from about 40 feet. That was part of three quick pars to keep his one-stroke lead after two rounds, then he played in the final group that finished just after 5 p.m.

Kuchar made his go-ahead stroke in the third round at No. 16—after falling behind by as many as two strokes—before his approach shot at the 379-yard 17th landed in a greenside bunker. He blasted to 13 feet and saved par before hooking his tee shot at No. 18 into the left rough. He found more tall grass near the green with his second shot before pitching inside 3 feet.

"To not give away a stroke and maintain a one-shot lead is a good position to be in. Everybody has got to come get me," Kuchar said. "Not only a bunch of players, but a bunch of good players up there. ... I'm looking forward to having the lead and seeing if I can maintain it, and my goal will be to grow the lead."

Weekly, even with problems maintaining focus in his left eye, and Every shot third-round 66s. Stroud had a 67 and DeLaet, playing with Kuchar, had three back-nine bogeys before a birdie at No. 18 for a 69.

Ranked No. 13 in the world—the highest in the field—Kuchar started the third round with a birdie at the easy par-5 first hole. At the 458-yard third hole, his 8-foot birdie attempt rolled over the cup without falling, ending his streak of 34 consecutive made putts under 10 feet this week at Hogan's Alley.

Kuchar missed another short one, a 5-foot par putt after blasting out of a greenside bunker at the seventh hole. He then missed the green on at the par-3 eighth and bogeyed again, putting him 9 under and two strokes behind DeLaet, the 31-year-old Canadian looking for his first PGA Tour victory.

"I felt like they were easy up-and-downs," Kuchar said. "I was glad to bounce back."

DeLaet was at 12 under after he and Kuchar both had birdies at the par-5 11th hole before his bogeys at Nos. 13, 14 and 17.

Kuchar won the WGC-Accenture Match Play in February, and will try Sunday to join Tiger Woods as the only multiple winners on the PGA Tour this season. Kuchar is a five-time winner, but never has won twice in the same season.

There could be a lot of competition in the final round at Colonial, where 12 players are within three strokes of the lead. That dozen includes defending champion Zach Johnson, who also won in 2010, at 202.

Johnson shot 68, his 18th time under par his last 19 rounds at Hogan's Alley. The lone exception being his closing 72 last year that included a two-stroke penalty. Five-time winner Ben Hogan is the only player to win Colonial more than twice.

"Certainly the confidence of playing well here is something I'm going to try to lean on," Johnson said.

Weekley, who has won twice but not since 2008, had gotten to 10 under during his second round Friday when he made consecutive birdies after making his turn. But he had a late four-hole stretch with a double bogey and two bogeys. He was back at 10 under Saturday with consecutive birdies at Nos. 11 and 12, and was still there after an up-and-down finish.

"When we got done playing (Friday), I went out to the range and practiced a little bit and focused back on what we are here to do , and that's win and play the best we can," Weekley said.

There was a bogey at the 14th when he missed the fairway with his tee shot and the green with his approach, but he made a 6-foot birdie at No. 15. He missed a 5-foot par chance at No. 16, but finished with a birdie after his approach inside 3 feet at the closing hole.

After having problems reading greens in recent tournaments, Weekley this week went to doctor to have his left eye checked. But he still hasn't found out what the problem is.

"I get like a real bad twitch when I'm trying to focus on something, especially staring down on the ball," Weekley said. "It's happened, I'd say probably 15-20 times so far this week."

Even with that problem, he's still got a chance to win.

RED SOX

From Page 28

Starting pitcher Nathan Camacho shut out the Enforcers in the first four innings and struck out eight, while Craig Aguon got two RBIs in a low-scoring game and did a good job relieving the former on the mound, and the rest of the Red Sox players showed poise in the last two innings to hand the team back-to-back championships. The Red Sox clinched the 2012 crown against the Ol'Aces, 8-7.

Against the JPO Enforcers for the 2013 finale, the Red Sox also had to labor hard to keep the Junior League title. The Red Sox started their title defense with Camacho getting two early strikeouts and leaving runners on second and third. He went on to collect four more strikeouts in the next three innings and allowed only one hit to keep JPO Enforcers from scoring.

The Red Sox ace also connected on an RBI double at the bottom of the first, driving Aguon home, while the latter earlier blasted an RBI single for their team's 2-0 lead after one complete inning. The Red Sox then made it a 4-0 advantage at the bottom of the third with Aguon this time hitting an RBI double and later reaching home off a JPO Enforcers' error.

After four run-less innings, the Enforcers finally broke into the scoreboard at the top of the fifth with leadoff Juan Quitugua nailing a double and eventually reaching home off Camacho's wild pitch. Second batter Franklin Lizama also found Camacho's pitch and then gave the Enforcers their second run off a stolen base. Camacho later struck out the next two batters, but allowed two stolen bases and walked one before getting a breather from Aguon.

Aguon started his shift with a walk, gave up one more run to put their lead in danger, 4-3, and allowed a single before getting the third out, as he picked up a grounder from Ethan Babauta and threw to first base.

After rallying at the top of the fifth, the Enforcers boosted their chances of stealing the game, as relief pitcher Cedric Camacho struck out the last two batters after the first one returned to the dugout on a 4-3 putout play, leaving the Red Sox with a shaky lead.

However, the Red Sox countered with good defense at the top of the sixth. Aguon struck out leadoff batter Nathan Nogis, Quitugua was beaten to first on a 5-3 play, and Lizama flied out to left field. On offense, the Red Sox got one run at the bottom of the sixth for good measure with Delin Reusora's base hit to right field bringing Camacho home before he was caught leaving first base for the third out.

Pressured to make at least two runs to keep their title hopes alive, the Enforcers got a break at the start of the top of the seventh with Aguon losing Rico Villagomez on four base on ball. However, Aguon redeemed himself in the next play, catching a fly ball, and the Red Sox got the second out with third baseman Chabo Deleon Guerrero tagging out Villagomez. Aguon walked another batter, but finished the game and the Enforcers' season right away, picking up a bunt from Kier Agda and throwing to first for the last out.

HK

From Page 28

finals pass, as his seeded foe, third-ranked Yong Seak Jang retired in the third set. Yang won the opening set, 6-4, but the Spaniard forced a deciding third set after recovering in the second, 7-5. Blanco Paris then was ahead, 1-0, when Jang called it quits due to injury.

Blanco Paris made it to the semifinals after getting two straight set wins and three-set victory in his first three games. The 17-year-old finalist first slipped past fellow wild card entry Philip Westwood of Thailand, 6-7 (3), 6-1, 6-3, before sweeping the CNMI's Amami Sakano in the second round, 6-3, 6-2, to barge into the quarterfinals against the second-ranked Chak Yin Chan of Hong Kong. Blanco Paris went on to pull off an upset over Chan, 6-3, 7-5.

Meanwhile, third-seeded Mei Otsuka prevailed in the all-Japanese finals in the girls U18 singles after defeating Izumi Asano yesterday, 6-2, 6-2.

Otsuka assured Japan a 1-2 finish in the girls division after she won over top-ranked and the Philippines' Katrina Orteza in the semifinals last Saturday, 6-3, 6-2. The other semis pairing saw Azano outclassing compatriot and No. 5 seed Yuri Katano, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3.

Asano earlier was victorious against two other seeded foes—the No. 2 pick Emiri Vithhoontien of Thailand, 6-0, 6-1, and Germany's Vivien Klein, 6-3, 6-1—to clinch the finals berth in the lower half of the draw.

Otsuka was in the upper half of the draw and got all her four wins via straight sets to top the 25-player competition. She drew a bye in the first round and was paired and won against Thailand's Gorbua Srisirisupayok in the second, 6-2, 6-3. The Japanese then swept South Africa's Warona Mdlulwa in the quarterfinals, 6-1, 6-1, to arrange a semis showdown with Orteza.

Meanwhile, the doubles results of the Northern Marianas Open, that was supported by IT&E, August Health Care, All-Star Sport, Hertz Rent A Car, PIC, Kanoa, TSL Foundation, Subway, and Powerade/Coca-Cola, will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Tuesday edition.

BREWERS

From Page 28

for-39 and got five earned runs against only one earned run and 9-for-35 performance at the plate from the Fielders.

Manny Sablan led the Brewers' better at-bat percentage, as he went 3-for-5 at bat and logged one run and two RBIs. Jun Rabauliman went 3-for-6, collected three runs and one RBI, while Nokki Saralu and Juan Iguel also contributed one RBI each on a 3-for-4 and 2-for-4 hitting.

Jordan Pangelinan made the lone RBI in the Fielders' loss, as he blasted a one-run double at the top of the seventh inning. The Fielders never logged more than one run in the four innings they scored.

On the other hand, the Brewers scored in six of the eight innings, getting three runs in the sixth, two apiece in the first and fourth, and once each in the third, fifth, seventh.

Jared Sablan started out for the Brewers, pitching six innings and allowing only two four hits and two runs in an error-free job on the mound. Vince Cepeda took over in the last three innings and committed only one mistake, while giving up five hits and two runs to help the Brewers recover from a Game 2 loss.

The Fielders took Game 2 and tied the series after eking out a 6-5 victory last Wednesday. Ricardo Dela Cruz made the winning run at the bottom of the ninth inning off a Cadez Tenorio RBI walk.

It was a come-from-behind win for the Fielders, who were down, 5-1, after five and a half innings. They started the rally at the bottom of the sixth with Marvin Ngeskebei and Zack Flores hitting RBI single each to move the Fielders within two, 3-5. Flores then got another RBI, this time off a triple, while Pangelinan had a sacrifice out to force a standoff at the bottom of the seventh.

Neither team scored in the eighth and the Brewers kept their silence at the top of the last, giving the Fielders the opportunity to steal the game in the final inning. The Fielders started the bottom of the ninth with Dela Cruz making a single and later stealing second. The next two batters also advanced, leaving the bases loaded, however Vince Cepeda struck out Flores, preventing the Fielders from scoring the winning run early. Then Cepeda was up against Cadez Tenorio and the former lost the latter on base on ball, awarding the free winning run to the Fielders.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	30	18	.625	–
Boston	30	20	.600	1
Baltimore	27	22	.551	3 1/2
Tampa Bay	24	24	.500	6
Toronto	20	29	.408	10 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	27	20	.574	–
Cleveland	27	21	.563	1/2
Chicago	23	24	.489	4
Kansas City	21	25	.457	5 1/2
Minnesota	19	27	.413	7 1/2

West Division

Texas	32	17	.653	–
Oakland	27	23	.540	5 1/2
Los Angeles	22	27	.449	10
Seattle	20	29	.408	12
Houston	14	35	.286	18

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	30	18	.625	–
Washington	25	24	.510	5 1/2
Philadelphia	24	25	.490	6 1/2
New York	17	29	.370	12
Miami	13	36	.265	17 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	31	17	.646	–
Cincinnati	31	18	.633	1/2
Pittsburgh	30	19	.612	1 1/2
Milwaukee	19	28	.404	11 1/2
Chicago	18	30	.375	13

West Division

Arizona	27	22	.551	–
Colorado	27	22	.551	–
San Francisco	27	22	.551	–
San Diego	22	26	.458	4 1/2
Los Angeles	20	27	.426	6

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	11	112	93	339	30.8
Anthony, NYK	12	126	77	346	28.8
Harden, HOU	6	45	53	158	26.3
James, MIA	11	98	72	282	25.6
Curry, GOL	12	102	35	281	23.4
Paul, LAC	6	49	33	137	22.8
Lopez, Bro	7	58	39	156	22.3
Parker, SAN	12	99	54	259	21.6
Lawson, DEN	6	48	28	128	21.3
Williams, Bro	7	45	37	144	20.6
Green, BOS	6	37	38	122	20.3
George, IND	14	88	79	278	19.9
Pierce, BOS	6	39	26	115	19.2
Parsons, HOU	6	42	9	109	18.2
Randolph, MEM	13	90	54	234	18.0
Iguodala, DEN	6	38	18	108	18.0
Gasol, MEM	13	81	66	228	17.5
Duncan, SAN	12	83	44	210	17.5
Conley, MEM	13	71	68	226	17.4
Jack, GOL	12	78	43	206	17.2

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Howard, LAL	26	42	.619
Sanders, MIL	19	33	.576
Leonard, SAN	67	118	.568
Dunleavy, MIL	17	30	.567
Asik, HOU	22	39	.564
Barnes, LAC	24	44	.545
James, MIA	98	183	.536
Paul, LAC	49	92	.533
Landry, GOL	52	100	.520
Bosh, MIA	60	118	.508

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Garnett, BOS	6	9	73	82	13.7
Evans, Bro	7	16	70	86	12.3
Gasol, LAL	4	7	39	46	11.5
Asik, HOU	6	21	46	67	11.2
Bogut, GOL	12	39	92	131	10.9
Howard, LAL	4	10	33	43	10.8
Randolph, MEM	13	46	81	127	9.8
Noah, CHI	12	52	63	115	9.6
Boozer, CHI	12	35	80	115	9.6
Hibbert, IND	14	68	66	134	9.6

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Williams, Bro	7	59	8.4
Curry, GOL	12	97	8.1
Lawson, DEN	6	48	8.0
Parker, SAN	12	90	7.5
Conley, MEM	13	96	7.4
James, MIA	11	79	7.2
Paul, LAC	6	38	6.3
Durant, OKC	11	69	6.3
Gasol, LAL	4	25	6.3
Ellis, MIL	4	22	5.5

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Still Can Do It takes Masters 50A crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Still Can Do It stole the 50A title from JWS after pulling off a 69-68 victory in a winner-take-all finale in the 2013 Masters Basketball League against last Friday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Still Can Do It managed to grab the 50A championship despite falling behind by 5 points with less than a minute left in the game. Thanks to Manny Sitchon, who scored 6 points in the closing minute.

Sitchon first went 2-for-2 from the foul line to slice the lead to 3, 65-68, 57.1 seconds left on the clock. JWS missed on the other end, while Sitchon faked off his defenders at the baseline, drew a foul, and made the basket. He completed the 3-point play to tie the match, 68-all, 40.2 seconds remaining on the clock.

JWS muffed two more shots in the ensuing plays, but still kept possession with Nomer Gamboa winning the battle for the loose ball. However, Gamboa was pressured by George Villasan at the right key and soon Sitchon provided help defense. Gamboa eventually dropped the leather and Sitchon picked it up and then drew a foul on the former, as the latter tried to break away from the play.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
JWS' Boy Garcia, left, and Romy Bernardo, center, watch Still Can Do It's Manny Sitchon make a fastbreak layup during the third quarter of their title game in the 50A division of the Masters caging last Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Sitchon made his first free throw to put Still Can Do It on top, 69-68. He missed the second and JWS got the rebound and was left with 10.6 seconds to orchestrate a play, which was halted by a Still Can Do It foul—only the eventual champion's fourth. With Still Can Do It not over the limit, JWS was forced to make an inbound with 2.1 seconds left and failed to cash in on the last play, as Boy Garcia's baseline jumper in front of Dave Camacho off a pass from Arnel Pinili hit nothing but air.

Sitchon top-scored for Still Can Do It's title win, firing 29 markers. Rufino Aguon and Dave Demapan added 10 apiece with the former canning a crucial triple in the last two minutes to keep Still Can Do It afloat before Sitchon scored in streaks.

Sitchon broke into the board early, canning 8 points in the opening quarter to lift Still Can Do It to a 17-12 advantage. He added 8 more in the second canto, while Aguon converted two treys to stretch the advantage to 6 at the break, 35-29.

Then after the third, the game was back to square one, as JWS played a balance offense to force a tie, 53-all. JWS kept its momentum in the fourth quarter and even led by as much as 8, 64-58, off Pinili's triple, before falling short in the end, as it was held to two field goals in the final three minutes of the match.

Caloy Enriquez led JWS' losing cause with his 15 points.

Still Can Do It 69 – Sitchon 29, Demapan 10, Aguon 10, Manalili 8, Camacho 6, Villasan 2.

JWS 68 – Enriquez 15, Gamboa 12, Garcia 10, Albina 9, Pinili 8, Valdez 6, Bernardo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-12, 35-29, 53-53, 69-68.

Kanoa upsets Mobil for second win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Resort stunned pacesetter Mobil, 109-102, during the first game in the 4th Shirley's Coffee Shop Basketball League last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Kanoa outgunned Mobil in a shootout, making 12 triples against the latter's nine to notch back-to-back wins after a 0-4 start. Mobil still leads the 10-team field, but is in a three-way tie with the Hoopaholics and Shirley's with their similar 5-2 slates, pending results of last Saturday's matches.

Mobil played catch up most of the way, as Kanoa gained full control of the match, starting in the second period, 51-29, and capitalized on the absence of the latter's key players. Marvin Rabauliman, Gyles Ruluked, and Pando Muleta missed the weekend match and Mobil went on to lose another player—Ronnel Gamboa—due to five fouls early in the fourth canto.

Jun Estolas and Gil Gapor tried to keep Mobil in the thick of the fight with the latter even tying the match momentarily with his split free throws, 95-all, less than three minutes left in the game.

However, Kanoa quickly regained the lead off Justin Zapanta's triple, while Preston Basa scored 5 straight points to widen the gap. Kanoa never lost the lead from thereon with Basa and Perry Inos sealing the win with their charities.

Basa finished with a team-high 30 points, while Inos chipped in 27. Jason Bahillo contributed 13, while Brian Ajoste and Zapanta added 12 and 10, respectively, for Kanoa's balance offense. Estolas paced Mobil with his 46 markers.

Hoopaholics 91, Docomo 76

The Hoopaholics grabbed a share of the led after thumping Docomo Pacific in the second game.

The Hoops pulled away in the second half en route to the 15-point win, as it dominated the paint with Docomo missing frontliner Bruce Berline and another bruiser—Rolly Paraiso. Hoops big men Kelvin Fitial, James Lee, and Mel Manibusan all scored in twin digits with the former nailing 17 points. Lee contributed 14, while Manibusan nailed 10. Maverick Itibus was the fourth Hoops player to post double figures with his 14.

Ahead by only 5 at the break, 45-40, the Hoops more than doubled the advantage, 65-52, after getting at least 3 points apiece from four players. It retained the comfortable lead in the fourth quarter before Docomo tried a late rally, moving within 7, 73-80, going into the last 1:30 of the match.

A steal and a fastbreak basket from Manibusan then ended Docomo's comeback bid and the mobile big man made another shot to bring the lead back to twin digits, 83-73, with less than a minute left on the clock.

First Game

Kanoa Resort 109 – Basa 30, Inos 27, Bahillo 15, Ajoste 12, Zapanta 10, Tenepere 7, Cadauan 4, Pablo 2.

Mobil 102 – Estolas 46, Gapor 22, Gamboa 16, Galzote 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-16, 51-39, 76-66, 109-102.

Second Game

Hoopaholics 91 – Fitial 17, Lee 14, Itibus 14, Manibusan 10, Diaz 9, Tenorio 7, Cabrera 2, Lauron 2.

Docomo Pacific 76 – Sison 26, Mangali 17, Wesley 12, McCale 9 Alvarez 4, Sanciangco 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-19, 45-40, 65-52, 91-76.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kanoa Resort's Justin Zapanta pulls up for a baby hook against Mobil's Zack Babauta during the fourth quarter of their game in the Shirley's caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Lyn's Heat routs depleted opponent

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Lyn's Heat capitalized on the short-handed Wanted Sponsor to cruise to a 74-58 victory in the 2013 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The weekend match was Lyn's Heat's last in the regular season and it ended its Bracket A campaign on a three-game winning streak after a 0-3 start to move up to third place. Adobo (6-0) is on top of the group and is assured of the automatic quarterfinals berth, while Flip Top and San Roque share second place with their identical 3-2 records (pending results of last Saturday's games). Chinatown (2-3) and Wanted Sponsor complete Bracket A with the latter having yet to win with only one game left and the former scheduled to face Flip Top last Saturday.

The Top 2 teams in the bracket will advance to the quarterfinals, while the four remaining squads will battle in the first round of the playoffs with the No. 3 squad taking on the No. 6 team and the No. 4 and 5 squads colliding in the other pairing.

Lyn's Heat boosted its chances of making it to the top half of the playoff seeding after manhandling the five-man crew of Wanted Sponsor. Manolo Manalo and Christian Devero teamed up in the push, scoring 12 points apiece, while Dan Mateo contributed 10, and three other Lyn's Heat players nailed at least 8 markers each.

Devero made 6 of his total markers in the second half, turning a 16-19 deficit to a 38-28 halftime advantage. Lyn's Heat kept the driver's seat in the second half, as Wanted Sponsor lacked manpower to overhaul the double-digit lead.

King's 70, Freestyle 68

In Bracket B, King's strengthened its chances for the outright quarterfinals seat after a close win over group leader Freestyle (4-2).

King's improved to second place with its 3-2 record, slightly ahead of Mawati (3-3) and Sexy Boys (3-3). GHD (2-2), Camor (2-3), and Yuchiro (2-4) round out the group.

Jaymark De Guzman led King's 2-point win, scoring 25 points, including the team's last 5 markers. He had 9 points in the fourth canto to foil Freestyle's repeated rallies, while Bryle Alegre chipped in 24, tallying King's last 10 points in the third to keep the team in front, 55-48.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Lyn's Heat's Jeff Garcia goes for a layup against Maplas La Mani during their game in the DLX caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court. Lyn's Heat won, 66-46, and ended the regular season with three straight victories after beating Wanted Sponsor last Friday, 74-58.

Down by 7 at the end of the third, Melvin Cadiang tried to bring Freestyle back into the match with his successive baskets in the fourth canto. However, De Guzman answered back with timely shots to end Freestyle's three-game winning run. For consolation, Cadiang led all scorers with his 29 markers, 14 of them came in the fourth canto.

First Game

Lyn's Heat 74 – Manalo 12, Devero 12, Mateo 10, Dayrit 9, Garcia 8, Vergara 8, Cayanan 5, Capalad 4.

Wanted Sponsor 58 – Diyco 15, Danipog 14, Cadag 9, Jacob 7, Siriban 7.

Scoring by quarters: 16-19, 38-38, 52-42, 74-58.

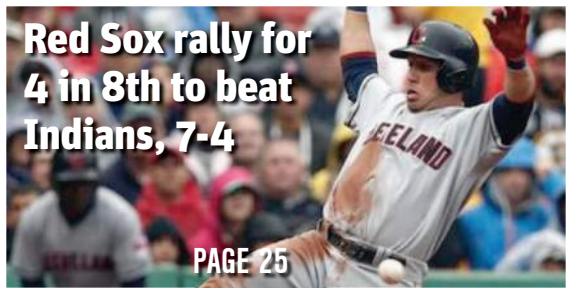
Second Game

King's 70 – De Guzman 15, Alegre 25, David 6, Mariano 4, Barrios 4, Hernaez 4.

Freestyle 68 – Cadiang 29, Bisana 16, Brown 15, Gunnacao 7.

Scoring by quarters: 20-21, 39-29, 55-48, 70-68.

Saipan Tribune
Sports



Red Sox keeps Junior League title

The Bank of Saipan Red Sox's players, officials, and supporters flash the No. 1 sign after beating the JPO Enforcers, 5-3, in the Junior League finals last Thursday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Bank of Saipan Red Sox retained the Junior League championships after notching a 5-3 win in their finals showdown against the JPO Enforcers in the 2013 Saipan Little League Baseball last Thursday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

See RED SOX on Page 26

Brewers move closer to SML crown

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Tan Holdings Brewers' Juan Iguel, left, gets a hi-five from Mike Pangelinan during Game 3 of their SML title series against the IP&E Fielders last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Tan Holdings Brewers are one win away from clinching the championship in the 2013 Saipan Major League, following a 10-4 win over the IP&E Fielders in Game 3 of their title series last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Brewers hope to close out the best-of-five championship duel when Game 4 is played tonight, while the Fielders try to extend the series to Game 5 on Wednesday.

Game 3 was all about decent hitting, as the Brewers went 14-

See BREWERS on Page 26

HK bet tops Northern Marianas Open

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hong Kong's Anthony Jackie Tang won the battle of wild cards in the finals of the boys U18 singles division of the IT&E Northern Marianas Open Junior Championships.

Tang swept Spain's Francisco Adolfo Blanco Paris, 7-6 (3), 6-2, in yesterday's title game at the Pacific Islands Club hard court to rule the 32-player field. The 14-year-old player won the championship without dropping a single set in five matches. He started his campaign with a 6-4, 7-5 win over Malaysia's Zu Zinyang Tan last Monday and then beat China's Yu Hao Lu in the second round last Tuesday, 7-5, 6-2, to advance to the quarterfinals.

In the Round of 8, the Hong Kong netter stunned No. 4 seed Jae Hee Cho of Korea, 6-4, 7-5, to set up a semis duel against Australia's Jesse Delaney. Tang went on to continue his streak when he ousted Delaney in the semifinals of the upper half of the draw, 6-1, 7-6.

In the lower half of draw, Blanco Paris got a free

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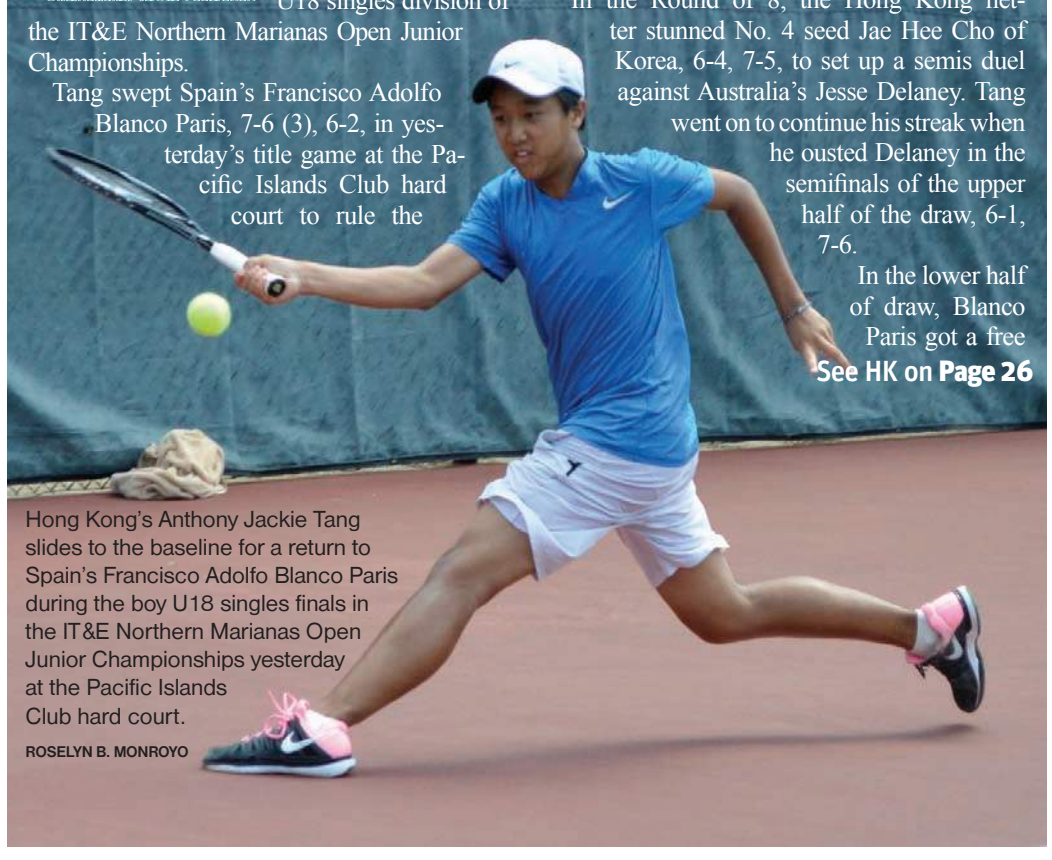

Hong Kong's Anthony Jackie Tang slides to the baseline for a return to Spain's Francisco Adolfo Blanco Paris during the boy U18 singles finals in the IT&E Northern Marianas Open Junior Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard court.

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